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European aims remain despite Paris change



The victory of socialist Francois Mitterrand in the French Presidential election has put an end to the Franco-German team that was the driving force behind the European Community for so many years.

But before the election the close relationship between Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Helmut Schmidt had already ended symbolically.

For seven years the French President and the German Chancellor had sat side by side when Common Market heads of government met.

At Maastricht, the 19th session of the European Council, as the regular conferences held since 1974 at the instigation of M. Giscard d'Estaing and Herr Schmidt are known, these close ties were uncoupled. For protocol reasons Greek Premier George Rallis sat between them.

Now observers in Bonn and Brussels are speculating about an Anglo-German axis after the demonstrative cordiality shown by Mrs Thatcher and Herr Schmidt at talks the day after the French Presidential poll.

Anglo-German disputes over fisheries, steel output and contributions to the Brussels EEC budget looked like being set aside in view of the unknown quantity of a left-wing government in France.

Besides, Mrs Thatcher had never met Mitterrand, while Herr Schmidt had met him only twice, and then only superficially, at gatherings of the Socialist International and the Social Democratic parties in the EEC.

Without a doubt the distance between the Chancellor's Office in Bonn and the Elysée Palace in Paris will have increased with Mitterrand's election.

But that does not automatically mean that the distance between Bonn and No. 10 Downing Street has been lessened.

The influence close coordination between Bonn and Paris exerted on developments in the Common Market in recent years was substantial, and partly because of the close personal relationship between Giscard and Schmidt.

But this influence has been overestimated by many, including the Chancellor. Despite close ties with the French President he could never be sure there would be no surprises or misunderstandings.

After Schmidt and Giscard had jointly worked out details of the European Monetary System, for instance, France stalled on launching it for a full two months until the completely disconcerted Bonn government made additional concessions on Common Agricultural Policy.

Yet Helmut Schmidt was happy to allow Valéry Giscard d'Estaing to play the leading role in Europe. He readily gave Giscard the credit for major decisions even though the initiative might have been his own.

Take, for instance, the 1974 decision to hold direct elections to the European Parliament or later proposals leading to the establishment of the European Monetary System.

This the Chancellor did not only to rule out the possibility of mistrust of German leadership in the European Community but also to consolidate M. Giscard d'Estaing's domestic position.

The freer the French President was from domestic opposition to his European policies, Bonn felt, the greater the leeway for German foreign policy would be.

Despite a number of sacrifices by Bonn, the latest being concessions at EEC farm price talks in March, this assessment of the situation has now gone wrong.

That is not to say it is entirely mistaken. Interests held in common by France and Germany do not cease to exist merely because two statesmen are no longer on cordial personal terms.

By the same token conflicts of interest cannot be eliminated merely because animosities are no longer openly demonstrated.

And the fact remains that Britain and Germany have much less in common than France and Germany in European affairs.

Britain and Germany are, admittedly, major net importers of farm produce. So both are net contributors to EEC finances, which largely go towards subsidising agricultural production.

They pay more to Brussels than they can hope to receive in return. Indeed, the financial burden on Britain is so heavy that the EEC countries agreed in May last year to allow Britain compensation for 1980 and 1981 and talks on further compensation in 1982.

These talks were to be held this autumn, while the EEC budget was to be

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Getting to know one another. French President Mitterrand (right) in his first diplomatic engagement after taking office, meets Chancellor Schmidt, in Paris.
(Photo: dpa)

Schmidt briefs Mitterrand on Washington trip

Nordwest Zeitung

Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Paris, where he was the first foreign leader to meet the new French President, M. Mitterrand, was in the role of intermediary.

The meeting was needed because Washington was at a loss how to respond to the French election result.

Did Chancellor Schmidt use Willy Brandt's good offices to arrange his prompt visit to Paris?

Or was the new man at the Elysée Palace himself keen to make contact with Herr Schmidt as soon as possible? In retrospect it hardly seems to matter.

What matters is that the meeting took place and that it did so within days of M. Mitterrand's election.

Herr Schmidt and M. Mitterrand, leaders of neighbouring France and Germany, were able to forge personal links of the kind that make communications and policy coordination so much easier.

The Chancellor was able to brief M. Mitterrand at first hand on the outcome of his visit to Washington. By doing so he helped to ensure that ties between America and France will be able to improve before long.

The Chancellor's role as an intermediary was less the result of his desire for harmony than a feature of practical German politics.

Nato membership and close cooperation with both France and the United States are essentials of Bonn policy.

The agreement Helmut Schmidt and Francois Mitterrand reached on world affairs, especially alliance policies, was particularly to be welcomed.

France's commitment to the balance of East-West military power amounts to approval of the outcome of Herr Schmidt's Washington talks.

The French and German leaders also shared anxiety lest America and Europe drift too far apart economically.

This testified to a common interest of Bonn and Paris in seeing high US interest rates reduced as soon as possible.

Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher and Helmut Schmidt agreed to welcome François Mitterrand with open arms. On his visit to Paris the Chancellor showed that open arms was not meant as a bear hug.

A lot of water may flow down the Seine and the Rhine before the open arms become an embrace, but open arms are, to begin with, something everyone can be satisfied with.

They do at least foster a climate of confidence and mutual honesty.

Bodo Schulte
(Nordwest Zeitung, 25 May 1981)

IN THIS ISSUE

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

West draws up blueprint for overall strategic concept

The West is once again on the way to formulating a new overall strategic concept.

It is unlikely to differ fundamentally from that of last year, but its chances of being put into effect are better because of the new style of leadership in the United States, where a new political will is evident.

Last year's strategic concept did not take effect in individual countries because of election campaigns in Germany, the United States and France.

Now Chancellor Schmidt has taken an important step in tying up the issue this year by visiting Washington after the Nato conferences in May.

The next step is the Ottawa international economic summit in the Canadian capital on 20 and 21 July.

Herr Schmidt played a leading role in framing Western views last year as laid down in declarations by Nato and by the economic summit involving seven leading industrial democracies.

They were preceded then, as they are this time, tentatively, by bilateral papers resulting from encounters by the Chancellor with one or other of Bonn's leading partners in the West.

If the final communiqué issued by President Reagan and Chancellor Schmidt in Washington is read with this viewpoint in mind it will be seen to include the outlines of a balanced strategy.

What is more, and most significantly at the present juncture, it is a strategy based on a convincing German-American consensus.

Artificially exaggerated expectations cannot be the yardstick by which a political encounter of this significance is measured.

There were no grounds for assuming the Chancellor would either consent to an acceleration of plans for which a Nato timetable has been clearly laid *down or call for an immediate end to high US interest rates.*

His timing was ideal as he flew to Washington to coordinate policies of his and the US governments at a time when key features of future US policy have yet to mature.

The visit also facilitated the operational pursuit of elements of Nato policy previously outlined in communiqués of the Atlantic pact.

Herr Schmidt and Mr Reagan both had the next deadlines in view. First was the Ottawa economic summit, at which the review of Western policy was to be brought to a conclusion.

Then came the continuation of the East-West dialogue when US Secretary of State Haig and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko met in September.

Last were Mr Brezhnev's proposed visit to Bonn, also scheduled for September, and the October North-South conference in Mexico.

The Reagan administration may not initially have intended to go so far, but closer scrutiny of the Washington communiqué shows that the Chancellor did indeed accomplish what he had set out to do:

- German-American ties are regarded as an enduring bond, a cornerstone in relations between Europe and the United States and a major factor in international stability and the security of the West.

Constant endeavours to arrive at a consensus, a joint approach that does justice to the vital interests of both sides, are accordingly acknowledged as a self-evident and essential feature of the relationship.

- East-West policy: Deterrent and *defence on the one hand and arms con*trol and disarmament on the other are reaffirmed at the highest level as integral features of Nato security policy.

The realisation that neglect of the equal importance of both would jeopardise the alliance is firmly established in Washington in the wake of Chancellor Schmidt's visit.

The Chancellor no longer needed to canvass in support of as early a start as possible to serious East-West talks.

Secretary of State Haig had already held about a dozen talks with Soviet ambassador Dobrynin on Salt talks to deal with Euromissiles and, no doubt, on a convenient time for a US-Soviet summit.

- International economic policy: Combating inflation and boosting the prospects of renewed economic growth and productivity increases are to be assigned special priority in the two countries "carefully coordinated" economic policies.

The system of free world trade is to be strengthened, protectionism is to be combated and joint efforts are to be undertaken to reduce reliance on petroleum.

The Chancellor thus conceded to Mr Reagan that current high interest rate policies are indispensable if the United States is to contain inflation.

At the same time President Reagan acknowledged the limits to this policy imposed by its repercussions on economic stability in Europe.

So the direction the Ottawa economic summit is likely to take is clearly indicated.

- North-South policy: Bona fide non-alignment of Third World partners on the basis of independence and self-determination is conceded.

Readiness to cooperate on the basis of equal rights is reaffirmed. Wide-ranging collaboration with the Gulf states is anticipated.

A second bid to arrive at a comprehensive solution to the energy problem is deemed necessary.

This Western attitude towards [the] Third World should prove an effe[ctive] feature in a Western concept to co[unter] the Soviet desire to increase the [influ]ence of the Kremlin.

Yet at the same time Moscow is b[eing] offered the option of cooperation w[ith] the West.

Containment without confrontation can thus be seen to be emerging as [the] keynote of a future overall Western [stra]tegy.

There are also further pointers to [fun]damental agreement. For the first t[ime] in a long while European integration [is] mentioned again as a US policy ob[jec]tive.

The major role Berlin has to play [in the] continued integrity of Poland a[s a] precondition of further detente, [the de]sire to arrive at constructive res[ults at] the Madrid CSCE review conference [and] the West's viewpoint on Afghanistan [were] all reiterated.

The communiqué also states that [the] United States and Europe ought, jo[intly] and severally, to try and bring ab[out a] "comprehensive, just and lasting p[eace]" in the Middle East.

Thus a major misunderstanding o[ver] European activities in respect of [the] Middle East would appear to have b[een] clarified once and for all.

The most important point, however, [is] surely that Herr Schmidt and Mr Reagan have found a common language [and] arrived at a large degree of personal [un]derstanding.

They have thus laid a firm foundation for joint activity, which has long [since] to be a matter of course for po[litical] leaders in the two countries.

There are no dark spots to the Chancellor's visit, which is sure to have a b[e]neficial domestic effect before long.

Helmut Schmidt has reached the [end] of a lean period and his talks with Pre[sident] Mitterrand of France on his w[ay] back home will have further convinced him that this is the case.

Wolf J. Bell

(General-Anzeiger, 25 May 1981)

European aims

Continued from page 1

restructured in favour of other sectors. In other words, Common Agricultural Policy was to be reformed.

But after last year's bonus and with the prospect of an offset agreement for next year too, Britain no longer bears the financial burden of CAP.

It is thus currently of no use as an ally in the bid to reform it.

The last round of farm price talks could hardly have shown more convincingly how far apart Britain's Conservatives and the Social and Free Democratic Bonn coalition are on agricultural policy.

Peter Walker, the British Agriculture Minister, was among those who were most in favour of substantial farm gate price guarantees.

At the end of a marathon session Bonn's Josef Ertl somewhat disconcertedly commented:

"What point is there in reforms? Everyone is happy with the Common Agricultural Policy: France, Italy, Benelux, Ireland and even the British."

True enough, on fundamental EEC issues solutions can be accomplished with France alone. Paris remains Bonn's traditional ally in European affairs.

Hans-Hagen Bremer

(Die Zeit, 22 May 1981)

An uncertain Moscow looks to Bonn

Ties with Bonn are particularly important to Moscow right now, according to reliable reports.

Soviet officials are working on the details of Mr Brezhnev's proposed visit to Bonn. Although the date has not yet been agreed it should be some time this summer.

The Kremlin regards the Bonn government as the most predictable and reliable in a Western world that is felt to be increasingly hostile towards the Soviet Union.

In the Soviet view the Reagan administration aims at confrontation with Moscow. A dialogue with Mrs Thatcher in London is not considered unduly desirable, while M. Mitterrand's election victory in Paris has made Soviet ties with France more uncertain.

Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Washington has reportedly served only to confirm the Soviet assessment of the Reagan administration.

Moscow is far from convinced that Washington has serious intentions over the second part of the Nato missile decision, the offer of negotiations in addition to arms modernisation.

As for France, the Soviet Union made no bones about its preference for M. Giscard d'Estaing's *Ostpolitik* as pursued from the Elysée Palace. The Kremlin had banked on Giscard being returned to power.

Now, with M. Mitterrand at the helm in France, Soviet policymakers feel unsure of themselves. The French Socialist leader has criticised the Soviet Union much more trenchantly than M. Giscard d'Estaing was given to doing on issues such as, say, Afghanistan.

This uncertainty over *Westpolitik* in advance of Mr Brezhnev's visit to Bonn could induce Moscow to renew contact with people with whom the Kremlin feels on safer ground when it somes to *Ostpolitik*.

The CPSU Central Committee has, for instance, written to SPD chairman Willy Brandt and other Social Democratic parties in Western Europe calling for constructive disarmament talks.

This would seem to indicate that contacts may indeed by in the process of renewal. It is certainly no surprise to hear Willy Brandt's name mentioned in this context.

Herr Brandt is a Western politician the Kremlin trusts. The former Bonn Chancellor has twice in recent years been invited by Mr Brezhney to visit the Soviet Union.

In addition to the weight he carries in Bonn, Herr Brandt will be seen in Moscow as a particularly welcome par[tner] for talks in the West by virtue of h[is] friendship with M. Mitterrand and h[is] cordial ties with the French Socialists.

In advance of Mr Brezhnev's v[isit] Herr Brandt would also be an appropri[ate] opposite number with whom to d[is]cuss informally what cannot well be d[ealt] with within the framework of a s[tate] visit such as the Soviet leader has [in] mind.

So it would hardly be surprising if [the] Soviet Union were to renew its invita[tion] to Willy Brandt and if Herr Brandt were to accept it and to visit Moscow shortly.

Peter Seidlitz

(Der Tagesspiegel, 27 May 1981)

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[S]ECURITY

[Go]vernment Nato policy wins heavy Bundestag backing

[On]ly six of 500 members of the [Bu]ndestag voted against the Go[vernm]ent Nato policy at the end of the [securit]y debate. Four abstained.

[But] it was not as easy as the figures [sugges]t: what had begun as a listless [ex]ercise for both coalition and op[positio]n to reaffirm their positions on disarmament talks and the de[ploym]ent of medium-range missiles in [Europe] turned into a family fight with[in the la]rger of the two governing par[ties, t]he SPD.

[Bu]t when the chips were down, the [oppos]ition CDU/CSU rallied round its favourite: Helmut Schmidt.

[Op]position leader Helmut Kohl was somewhat sarcastic in the beginning [when] he said: "Mr Chancellor, we don't []begrudge you your scintillating [] in the White House."

[C]DU Member of Parliament, Major [] Hamm Dallmeyer, a newcomer to [the] Bundestag, than earnestly jumped [into] the breach for the Chancellor, [sayin]g: "Gentlemen of the SPD, I call [on y]ou to support the Chancellor rather [than] trip him up with your anti-American statements."

[D]allmeyer stressed that the Nato [vo]te in the Bundestag was by and [large] marked by consensus. He added, [but] even so, nobody knew what was [] to come.

What was to come soon became evi[den]t: Dallmeyer was the last speaker ac[tuall]y *on the* agenda, and when he had [finishe]d all hell broke loose.

[The] overwhelming majority of the [SPD] for the first time publicly fought it [out] in Parliament with its small left [wing].

[Eve]n the left wingers were disunited. [Ac]tual opposition against the Chan[cello]r splintered on the impact of an [issue] that could ultimately decide the de[stiny] of the SPD/FDP coalition and the [fate] of the SPD as a whole.

[Th]e dispute started developing early. [SPD] Chairman Willy Brandt, the third [speak]er to take the floor, tried to [recon]cile the feuding factions and [remi]nd them of their common goals (to [be] reliable allies without relinquishing independence).

[He] stressed that, without the Nato [decisi]on to deploy medium range missiles, there would be no talks with the [Sovie]ts on their own SS-20 missiles.

[Sin]ce no agreement on doing away [with] the devilish stuff altogether can be [reach]ed, Brandt said, it was better to [have] any sort of deal than none.

[T]his had more impact on most SPD [Bun]destag members than the Chancel[lor's] statement ... but "most" does not [mea]n "all".

[Lef]t winger Karl-Heinz Hansen, who [is fac]ing disciplinary proceedings with a [possi]ble expulsion from the party be[caus]e of his derogatory remarks about [the] Chancellor, stood his ground.

[H]e went up to the podium where [Bran]dt had just finished his address and [neg]otiated with the Bundestag Presidium [and] finally with Bundestag President [Stüc]klen himself in a bid for the floor.

[Ba]ck bencher Hansen, whom his [part]y had not nominated as a speaker [and] who was therefore not on the agen[da], demanded permission to address the [Bun]destag.

[He]rr Stücklen desperately thumbed [thro]ugh the book of words on parliamentary procedure to find a solution, while the SPD right wingers contemplated calling an end to the debate and thus preventing the irksome critic from taking the floor.

But in the end there was general disarray.

Even before Hansen and his friend, Manfred Coppik, were able to launch their assault on their own government, the action began.

Well-meaning Dallmeyer (of all people) was interrupted by Munich SPD MP Schöfberger who interjected that US Secretary of State Haig had said in a Senate hearing that there were more important things than peace.

Schöfberger then asked whether Haig, if he were to act the way he obviously thinks, would not be an acute danger to world peace.

The Chancellor felt himself personally provoked and took the floor for the second time to tackle the opposition among his own ranks.

He said that he had no doubt whatsoever that the American secretary of state was a man of peace.

The federal government's policy, he said, was aimed at preventing a situation in which we were faced with a choice between freedom and peace.

Though this met with the approval of the Chancellor's opponent Helmut Kohl, it did not mollify his fellow party member Hansen.

When Hansen finally took the floor there was a general murmuring.

He said that the government was taking the easy way out and that this was no way of preserving freedom in a nuclear age.

He then tried to do away with what he called fallacies about Nato's need to modernise. The United States, he said, was determined not to engage in serious talks with the Soviets unless it had military superiority. Washington was using Europe as a pawn against the Soviet Union to gain advantages in other parts of the world: "For us, there is nothing more important than peace." The majority of the SPD in Parliament then sent its foreign affairs expert Corterier to the fore. He said that Hansen's words made it quite clear that he had not spoken on behalf of the SPD.



(Cartoon: Haitzinger/Nordwest Zeitung)

The left wingers started to waver, obviously concerned over the future of the Bonn coalition. SPD MPs Waltemathe and Schöfberger pointed to their conscience, saying they wanted disarmament only and rejected the Nato decision.

Others, like Conradi, Voigt, Thüsing and Kühbacher, went along with the government decision though with grave reservations. They stressed that only the Social-Liberal coalition government guaranteed Bonn's willingness to negotiate.

Since none of the MPs were prepared to forgo letting the public know about their pangs of conscience, the debate dragged on.

Bundestag Vice-President Annemarie Renger repeatedly had to tell MPs to be brief and come to the point.

There was growing impatience among CDU/CSU opposition MPs. But in the end even they gave in and decided not to put forward a resolution of their own and called for he adoption of the government motion — probably to highlight the SPD dilemma even more.

The outcome was impressive. Only six members voted against the government's Nato policy; four others abstained.

The rest must therefore agreed with the Chancellor's foreign policy.

Wolfgang Mauersberg

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 May 1981)

No simple solution available for arms control

The Bundestag security debate is over, but the public discussion will continue.

Central to this is public doubt over whether the two super powers are sincere about the envisaged arms control negotiations.

The Bundestag decided with a heavy majority that both parts of the Nato decision (to deploy new medium-range missiles in Europe and, at the same time, negotiate on measures to control arms) should carry equal weight.

But this cannot gloss over the fact that there are a great many people in this country who doubt that the correct decision has been taken.

It was good that both Social Democratic and Free Democratic speakers made it clear in Parliament that those who doubted the wisdom of the decision should not be accused of supporting the Soviet Union.

All parties, including the opposition, would be well advised to take seriously public concern over the arms race.

On the other hand, the opponents of the Nato decision must not maintain that only they have the ultimate solution to peace in Europe.

The problems of arms control and disarmament — and 20th century history proves it — cannot be solved with simple patent remedies.

These problems involve not only quantity and quality of arms but also politics and psychology.

Unilateral disarmament has proved in the past that it does not prevent conflicts but actually triggers them.

But this neither means that we must forgo all disarmament efforts nor that we must build up our armed strength ad infinitum.

In view of the destructive power of nuclear weapons, this could soon lead to a disaster.

The discussion in the Federal Republic of Germany does not revolve around the ultimate objective (securing peace) but around the best way of achieving this.

The Nato decision was essentially not a strategic move (if this were so, the offer to negotiate would have been unnecessary) but a political lever with which to bring about arms control and disarmament talks for Eurostrategic weapons.

Not only Willy Brandt in his latest Bundestag address but many others before him have pointed out that there can be no negotiations without this Nato decision.

After all, the Soviet Union has never yet negotiated arms issues without obtaining concessions.

Nobody should doubt that the forthcoming talks will be tedious and protracted — if for no other reason, because the Soviet Union is considerably ahead in the field of medium-range weaponry.

The West has been unable so far to fathom what prompted Moscow to opt for this additional arms buildup.

Be this as it may, all that matters now is to bring the superpowers to the conference table.

Should it turn out that either of them has come to the bargaining table as a mere formality, not only Bonn but the whole of Western Europe would have to redraft its security policy.

It would be intolerable if our continent were to become just a nuclear buffer zone between the two superpowers.

Two SPD MPs (each speaking for himself) levelled very one-sided charges in the recent security debate in the Bundestag.

They did not restrict themselves to criticising certain political statements by American politicians but engaged in an emotion-laden anti-Americanism in which they doubted only America's will to preserve the peace.

But how MP Karl-Heinz Hansen — and those who silently condone his views — can reconcile this with the Soviet arms buildup and its aggression in Afghanistan remains a mystery.

One thing is certain: such one-sidedness detracts from Bonn's scope of action.

Werner Holzer

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 May 1981)

■ THE LAW

Ongoing battle of Amnesty International

Amnesty International was founded 20 years ago last month. It has now more than 200,000 individual members and promoters in 134 countries.

In the Federal Republic of Germany AI has 18,000 people working for it.

The organisation began with an appeal by a British lawyer, Peter Benenson, which was published simultaneously in the London Sunday newspaper, *The Observer*, and the French daily, *Le Monde*.

Under the headline "The Forgotten Prisoner," Benenson wrote: "Open your newspaper any day of the week and you're bound to find a report on somebody somewhere in the world having been arrested, tortured or executed because his views, convictions or religion did not suit the governement. There are several million such people languishing in jails, and their number is rising."

It was the start of the first and probably most successful "citizens' initiative" of the post-war era. The response to his "appeal for amnesty" was so great that the organisation went from strength to strength in the next 20 years.

On 1 May 1980 it had 2,427 agencies in 42 countries, 650 of them belonging to the German section that was founded in August 1961 by journalists Carola Stern, Gerd Ruge and Felix Rexhausen.

Between May 1979 and May 1980, there were 4,131 adoption and investigation cases (1,100 by the German section) and 1,729 prisoners cared for by AI were released.

Despite such success, Benenson's appeal still holds true word for word and is perhaps even more warranted today.

Is AI not engaged in a sisyphean task and is the rock it has to roll uphill not getting bigger with every step?

Says Helmut Frenz, secretary-general of the German AI section: "This is exactly the impression we have. The human rights situation world-wide has certainly not improved. Yet 20 years of work by AI and other organisations has achieved one thing: mankind has become more aware of human rights violations. Those who disregard these rights can no longer act behind a smokescreen of ignorance. They must expect their crimes to become known and have their effects on politics."

Amnesty International's work has been spectacularly successful. One of the "forgotten prisoners" referred to in the May 1961 appeal was the African poet and politician Agostino Neto, who was to become the first president of liberated Angola.

But human rights violators are inventive in finding ever new smokescreens.

Herr Frenz: "We have been shocked to find that new forms of human rights violations are spreading. Political opponents in totalitarian states are made to disappear into oblivion more than ever before. Tons of thousands have already disappeared. But the governments involved and, above all, their security forces deny any knowledge of these disappearances and reject responsibility.

"The opponent is eliminated — frequently without as much as an attempt to preserve even the appearance of legality. We must see to it that the disclosure of these crimes remains a task for the states in which they happen so that we don't have to play the role of international policemen."

What Benensen said in his 1961 appeal, that it is "important to mobilise public opinion as quickly as possible", has now turned into a race against time.

But there were other tasks among those he mentioned, among them the promotion of international human rights conventions and help for political refugees. Have these tasks been forgotten under the pressure of day-to-day work?

Frenz: "On the contrary. In the past four or five years we have exerted increased pressure on legislators and have promoted human rights conventions. AI has an advisory status at a number of international organisations; we are working on an anti-torture convention together with the UN Human Rights Commission, and we are pressing for the abolishment of capital punishment in a world-wide UN initiative.

"We are also exerting our influence in a resolution before the European Parliament aimed at doing away with the death penalty. And we are promoting UN measures that would make it an international crime to make people disappear. Moreover, we are trying to ensure that this convention be equipped with implementation mechanisms that will make it more than just words on paper."

The work volume of amnesty has grown from year to year; and its importance has also increased since the award in 1977 of the Nobel Peace Prize.

AI has no government support nor does it wish to have it. What the organisation needs is the voluntary help of independent and committed citizens.

Now, 20 years after the initial appeal, there is more reason than ever to come up with a "birthday present".

The voice of AI is indispensible in our world. As the philosopher John Dewey put it: "If you want to fathom a society, look at who sits in its jails."

Johannes Piscator
(Vorwärts, 28 May 1981)

Court rules on police methods

Ruling on an appeal against a narcotics conviction, the Federal Supreme Court, Karlsruhe, has clarified the limits to which the police may go in using an agent provocateur to get a conviction.

The appeal against the sentence, 2 years 3 months imposed by a Giessen court, was made by a Turk who was persuaded to arrange a heroin deal by a police informer.

The informer was induced to work for the police not only for the money but also with a view to leniency in a drugs case that was pending against him.

He undertook to track down narcotics dealers and help the police to make an arrest. In Butzbach, Hesse, he asked an unemployed Turk whether he could get hold of a substantial quantity of heroin for him.

There was no special reason why he approached the Turk, who had no previous convictions and was not suspected of dealing in drugs.

But the Turk, although he refused to help at first, soon agreed to see what he could do, and a fortnight later he said he could supply 100 grams of heroin for between DM12,000 and DM13,000.

The stooge promptly informed the police, who told him how to go ahead with the deal and gave him cash to show the Turk as earnest money.

The Turk was arrested as he handed over the heroin, prosecuted for drug trafficking and tax evasion and sentenced to 27 months' imprisonment on 31 January 1980.

In appealing, he argued that the

Continued on page 5

Special meeting probes right-wing extremism

Right-wing criminal groups have been imitating left-wing terrorists for the past four years, according to Heinrich Sippel, of the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution.

They gather weapons, ammunition, explosives, forge identity cards, rob banks, make contact with foreign terrorists, maintain hideaways, distribute literature and organise hunger strikes in prison, he said.

Herr Sippel was speaking at a meeting specially convened by the Bonn SPD head office. Present were members of the executive board, MPs of all three parties in the Bundestag, cabinet members researchers and observers representing various interests.

The meeting was prompted by a survey carried out by the Sinus Institute of Heidelberg, which said that 13 per cent of the voting population had a "complete right-wing *Weltanschauung*".

The meeting agreed in the end that the *weltbild* of right wing extremists was not cohesive but diffuse and unstructured like the contents of a sack of flour. Even so, said the head of the Sinus Institute, Horst Nowak, wherever you stick a knife in the sack flour will ooze out.

Herr Sippel said that post-1945 right wing extremism had acquired terrorist traits culminating in the 1980 bomb attack at the Munich October Festival and the murder of two Vietnamese refugees in Hamburg.

There are about two dozen groupings with some 1,200 activists, some of them prepared to engage in terrorist action while others are mere supporters and donors of money. There are another 600 neo-Nazis outside known groupings and a militant hard core of about 150 with an unknown number of active supporters.

There are also some 75 organisations subscribing to right, wing extremist programmes with a total of 19,000 members whose hatred of foreigners and peripheral groups of society coupled with a pathological worship of such terms as "fatherland" and "nation" has whipped them into a frenzy of right wing emotions. Many of these people are otherwise honourable citizens.

Professor Richard Löwenthal of Berlin's Free University pointed to such material causes as economic recession and to intellectual reasons.

He sharply censured the decline of Germany's educational system during the past ten years and schools that provide no instruction on our democratic institutions and convey no knowledge of recent history.

He pilloried teachers who spread a feeling of uselessness — not because of a predominantly leftist attitude but because of a sense of resignation with the attendant demoralising effect on the students.

Professor Hans Mommsen of Bochum's Ruhr University contradicted vehemently, saying that "history instruction in our schools was always considered poor when society itself showed shortcomings."

He said that we should discuss society rather than schools, terming the right wing extremists small groups that should be viewed with more equanimity ("There was a time when we had more of them").

He called on the authorities to devote more attention on other dangers, ... drug abuse and the "alternative ...

Professor Mommsen also said ... beral policy was being more ... neo-conservative trends than ... wing extremism.

Professor Martin Broszat of the ... tute for Contemporary History, ... argued along similar lines. He ... the official figures were not ... ing and that he considered it ... portant to look into the "grey ...

Professor Oskar Negt, of ... Technical University, said it ... to stare fixedly at the 13 per ... right wing extremists. Instead, ... pounded a somewhat startling ... saying that the personal backgr... young people today reveal only ... rospect why some join perfectly ... youth organisations while other ... towards the neo-Nazi variety.

It was possible that following ... perience of "impotence against ... state" a need was aroused in young ... ple to engage in a "spontaneous ... and that the decision whether this ... should come from the extreme ... the extreme right was coincidental.

When the theologian Professor ... Taubes, Berlin, a Jew and an ... citizen, asked why the invitation ... discussion was issued at this ... time he only received the formul... that this was triggered by the Sinus ... vey.

Professor Taubes stressed that ... not the figures that posed a threat ... the general situation which ga... wing extremism a chance because ... left-wing variety was in a crisis.

He told the political parties ... leave it to the right-wing extremists ... handle such terms as "fatherland", "nation", "homeland" and "family", ... especially at a time when the ... "has manoeuvred itself into a situ... where it has replaced the term ... hood' by fictions."

Heinz Galinski, chairman of the ... Jewish community, criticised the ... that the Sinus study mentions peri... groups as a target of right-wing ex... ism but says nothing about openly ... played anti semitism.

This, he said, had now ... forms as in the worst of times and ... further aggravated by an anti... complex.

Justice Minister Jürgen Schmude (SPD) was asked by Galenski whether the Federal Republic of Germany intended to ban car licences with letter combinations such as SS or SA (abbreviations ... Hitler's storm troops) or KZ (concentration camp).

Herr Schmude told him that ... bans would be useless, but said that ... taking over the Justice Ministry ... his predecessor, Hans-Jochen Vogel, ... had found various drafts for the ... tors: measures against the growing ... ports of Nazi literature and symbols, ... the ban of reprints of Nazi lit... and similar measures in connection with the "Auschwitz lie".

In legal terms, only the next-of-kin ... victims of the Hitler dictatorship ... claim personal insult in cases ... somebody maintains that it is ... that millions of Jews and others ... gassed in Nazi concentration camps.

Rudolf S...
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, ...)

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

Hamburg mayor resigns over nuclear issue

One of the most unusual and puzzling politicians in post-war Germa... Mayor Hans-Ulrich Klose of Ham... has resigned.

His decision was over the local elec... board, which wants to maintain ... stake in a proposed nuclear power ... of Brokdorf near Hamburg. By ... means untypical as a representative ... the younger generation of politicians, ... was not merely himself to blame for ... political debacle.

... was due in part of the clash of ... over nuclear power in his party, ... Social Democrats. What is more, his ... need not have ended in the way it ... seems to have done.

With his man-of-the-world courtesy, ... combined with the air of precision he ... the political career on which he ... embarked as a young public prosecutor ... with great promise.

He took over as SPD burgomaster ... Peter Schulz, who came unstuck ... finances, especially Billwerder, a ... major development project.

Herr Klose thereupon implemented a ... programme of stringent savings, fully ... ing up to the expectations of the powerful right wing of the Hamburg SPD, which had considered him one of its ...

He succeeded not only in convincing the Social Democrats of his ability. A courteous young man, he also pleased the people of Hamburg. His greatest *personal triumph* was the 1978 state assembly elections, in which he led the ... to a victory in which it regained its absolute majority.

But then a change began to come over him, a political and psychological change that still perplexes his erstwhile friends. The most probable explanation ... that he sensed, and far from mistakenly, that conditions in Germany were ... to change drastically in the wake of protest movements among young people and of the Greens, or ecologists.

In Hamburg the SPD began to move left, and Herr Klose felt it was up to him to respond to the trend and give it political shape.

In reality, however, he merely intensified the conflict within SPD ranks. At a Hamburg party conference he took sides against Chancellor Schmidt on the issue of the alleged public service career ban on political extremists.

On this issue he was instrumental in ensuring the Chancellor's defeat when the vote was taken.

It could be that he hoped to pave his way to becoming the leader of a new-look, left-wing SPD by claiming to prefer 20 Communist teachers to 200,000 young people who felt insecure.

This assumption is lent weight by the fact that after having been considered a pragmatic burgomaster he suddenly began to dot his speeches with left-wing SPD jargon, even including the stock in trade of the *Stamokap*, or state monopoly capitalism, wing of the Young Socialists.

He may have been similarly motivated in deciding to oppose the building of Brokdorf nuclear power station (after previously having favoured the project). But he underestimated support for the project in the SPD. A conference majority backed him in his anti-nuclear stand, but not the state executive or the floor leader in the state assembly.

His decision to resign was prompted by the floor leader's intention of avoiding a division in the state assembly and the city council's aim of postponing a decision until after next year's elections.

He tried and failed to harness energy legislation to induce the electricity board to bow out of the nuclear power station project and must, as a lawyer, have realised he stood not a chance.

He had overlooked the fact that neighbouring Schleswig-Holstein was responsible for building the power station and that he was in no position to prohibit the project.

The way in which he sought to put paid to a project of symbolic importance finally put paid to his reputation. He came a cropper; he was doomed to failure because, in the pursuit of ideological objectives, he overlooked the force of circumstances.

Now it looks as though the Bonn SPD is again, in the wake of West Berlin, going to have to delegate a national politician to restore the Social Democrats prestige in an SPD-ruled city-state.

Elections are due in Hamburg in a year and, if the Christian Democrats were to win, they would have a sufficiently large majority in the Bundesrat, or upper house in Bonn, to paralyse most of the SPD-FDP coalition's legislation.

Herr Klose's resignation as mayor of Hamburg may relieve the burden on Chancellor Schmidt in the dispute within the SPD over nuclear power, but his resignation is a sad blow to the general feeling within the party, which is anything but confident as it is.



Hans-Ulrich Klose

(Photo: Sven Simon)

The resignation testifies to tension and clashes to which the Social Democrats are proving increasingly prone.

Nuclear power, arms modernisation and balancing the budget are controversial issues on which the SPD is drifting further and further away from an agreed and convincing policy line. Both in Bonn and in Hessen the junior partners in the ruling coalition, the Free Democrats, are taking worried stock of their seniors. In Hamburg too the FDP, which is more than likely to return to the state assembly next year, will now have to consider most carefully whether it still feels able to commit itself to a coalition with a local SPD rent by dissension.

Werner Birkenmaier
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 26 May 1981)

Continued from page 4

... had been arranged by a police ... which could hardly be a valid means ... securing a prosecution.

The Supreme Court reaffirmed various ... in recent years that it was in principle advisable and in keeping with ... law to use police agents to combat particularly dangerous offences.

This category of offences undoubtedly included trafficking in drugs.

But the use of stooges, decoys and police agents provocateurs could not be allowed entirely without limitations. These limits, the court ruled, varied in accordance with the extent to which the offender was suspected of the offence.

Other criteria included the readiness of the offender to go ahead and the degree of persuasion.

In this instance, however, the informer had approached the offender merely on the off chance. His behaviour had not been such as to bear in any way on the offender's own responsibility.

There had been no need to go to great lengths to induce the Turk to go ahead with the offence and no undue influence was brought to bear on him.

So in this particular case the court quashed the appeal and upheld the sentences imposed by the lower court.

Senta Ulitz-Weber
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 19 May 1981)

Stoltenberg's 10 years as State PM

Gerhard Stoltenberg, 52, has been Prime Minister of Schleswig-Holstein, the northernmost *Land* of the Federal Republic of Germany, for 10 years.

He was first voted Premier in Kiel on 24 May 1971 and re-elected for a further term in the 1975 and 1979 state assembly polls. From November 1977 to October 1978 he was also president of the Bundesrat, or upper chamber of the Bonn Bundestag.

Dr Stoltenberg is a local man, Schleswig-Holstein born and bred. He was born in Kiel on 29 September 1928, the son of a Protestant clergyman, and grew up in Bad Oldesloe.

Towards the end of his school career he served with an anti-aircraft unit attached to the Navy. That was in 1944. He was taken prisoner by the British and did not return from internment until autumn 1945. He then worked as a secretary at Bad Oldesloe town hall before, from 1949 to 1953, reading modern history, economics, sociology and philosophy at Kiel.

He graduated in 1954 with a PhD thesis on the German Reichstag from 1871 to 1873, and in 1960 wrote a further thesis on Political Movements among the Rural Population of Schleswig-Holstein from 1919 to 1933. He then worked as a lecturer in modern history at Kiel University.

Dr Stoltenberg has been a Christian Democrat since 1947 and was chairman of the Junge Union, the CDU/CSU youth organisation, from 1955 to 1961.

After six months on the board of Krupp's, from April to Ocotber 1965, where he was responsible for economic policy, he was appointed Minister of Science and Research in Ludwig Erhard's second Bonn Cabinet.

He retained this portfolio in the 1966–69 Grand Coalition Cabinet led by Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger. A Social and Free Democratic coalition under Willy Brandt then took over in Bonn, whereupon Dr Stoltenberg was elected an executive member of the CDU/CSU parliamentary party. After moving to Kiel as Prime Minister in 1971 he by no means limited himself to a local role. He has always retained a keen interest in national affairs. In the Bonn Bundesrat he is without question the spokeman on economic and financial policies for the *Länder* ruled by CDU or CSU governments.



Gerhard Stoltenberg

(Photo: Sven Simon)

He is thus cast in the role of Opposition counterpart and adversary to Bonn Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer, although the two men have a high personal regard for each other.

At one stage he was in the running for nomination as Shadow Chancellor, and if Franz Josef Strauss had won the October 1980 general election Dr Stoltenberg would have been in line to become Vice-Chancellor and Finance Minister.

In June 1978 he made headlines by serving notice to end the agreement with Hamburg and Lower Saxony on Norddeutscher *Rundfunk* their jointly-run broadcasting authority.

His aim was to bring about a thorough reorganisation of radio and TV in the region. He argued theat NDR was floundering financially, that programme balance left much to be desired and that regional affairs were being neglected.

A new agreement between the three *Länder* was initialled in July 1980 and will hopefully redress the balance on the basis of the new terms negotiated.

Another headline-hitting problem Dr Stoltenberg has faced is the proposed nuclear power station at Brokdorf, which he has consistently advocated, in keeping with Bonn government policy.

But when demonstrators marched to the site and protest assumed serious proportions he felt very much left to his own devices by Bonn.

In March 1981 he outlined his policy for Schleswig-Holstein in the years ahead as follows: "In substantially worse economic and financial circumstances we will not be concentrating on setting up new authorities.

"The emphasis will be on giving every encouragement to selfhelp and neighbourhood activities and to private initiative in the economic sector and beyond."

Especially in the north, along the Danish border, greater importance must be attached to job creation and consolidation of the economy.

Egon Ludwig
(Das Parlament, 25 May 1981)

■ THE ECONOMY

Bundesbank stands firm on high interest rates

German business has learnt to live with high interest rates. But that doesn't prevent disappointment at the fact that there isn't likely to be a drop for some time.

Last year was the year of dashed hopes and illusions. Interest rates also fluctuated greatly, but at a historically high level for the German money market.

For the first time since the end of the war, the nation now has to live through a period of poor economic performance without the balm of interest rate reductions.

The reasons why money is so expensive are generally known. Yet protests by various interests, trade union accusations directed at the Bundesbank and the dispute between Bonn and the Bundesbank show two things:

- That these reasons are not always understood; and
- The priorities of the Bundesbank are not the same as other groups.

Of course, the high interest rate policy is inappropriate in times of economic decline. And of course it hurts.

The Bundesbank knows this. The reason it has not taken its foot off the monetary brake is because cheap money cannot check inflation.

Inflation, the current account deficit and the high interest rates in the USA leave the Bundesbank no option.

Contrary to ecpectations, West Germany's current account deficit since 1979 has continued to rise.

If we were to project the balance of payments for the first quarter of this year to the year as a whole, we would arrive at a deficit of between DM35bn and DM40bn compared with DM28bn in 1980.

And as if this were not enough, America recently hiked its prime rate still further to 20.5 per cent (only slightly below its all-time high last December when the prime rate stood at 21.5 per cent).

American pundits are pretty sure that the latest round of interest rate increases has not yet peaked.

This, too, force the Bundesbank to act.

Since one way of combating our current account deficit, that is well on its way to becoming chronic, is to ensure an influx of money from foreign investors, it would be suicidal to lower interest rates.

Even if the central bank wanted to take its foot off the money brake it would have to adapt to rising interest rates abroad — if for no other reason to prevent foreign capital from leaving the country and thus causing even more damage to the deutschemark.

The fact this has led to sharp disputes with the Bonn government does not exactly speak for Bonn's sagacity.

Even our banks and savings banks agree that the central bank has no choice at present but to stick to its tight money policy, although this does not mean that the banks are not anxiously waiting for lower interest rates.

The only thing that will impress the international money market is a continued stability policy on the part of the Bundesbank which is valiantly swimming against the tide.

Apart from foreign trade factors that must receive more attention there are also domestic reasons for this tight money policy.

Savings Banks Association President Geiger told a recent world congress of savings banks that interest rates would not come down until governments have made it clear to the public that savings are worthwhile again by instilling new confidence in future monetary stability.

This would presuppose a disciplined fiscal policy and more thriftiness in public sector spending. It would also presuppose an incomes policy orientated only by the performance and competitiveness of our domestic business.

The strain public sector borrowers impose on the money market is another factor that keeps interest rates high.

Public sector borrowing coupled with chronic budgetary deficits is aggravated still further by wage deals that go beyond productivity increases and thus have an inflationary effect.

And to make matters still worse, there is the rising oil bill and world-wide current account imbalances plus an enormous international indebtedness with a growing danger of collapse.

This bleak scenario precludes lower interest rates in Germany; and the high cost of money abroad makes it impossible for the Bundesbank to ease up.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 24 May 1981)

Prices keep climbing

More price increases are on the way, this time with a lead from the public sector.

Germany's state railway system, the Bundesbahn, has announced higher charges — for the second time in a year.

In doing this, it followed the method of the car industry: wait first for the results of collective bargaining, then spring the increases on the public.

True, there is much that can be justified by pointing to higher costs due to rising raw materials prices and wages.

But it is now only production costs that account for higher prices. The problems is that there is not enough competition and that what competition there is is being choked off by cartels, making it easy to pass rising costs on.

In fact, there is no shortage of excuses and pretexts.

But giving diminished sales as a reason for higher prices should make any market economy adherent blush because, according to the laws of the market, the only remedy for sagging sales is lower prices.

The question is: can out business afford such an attitude in the long run?

Only public sector companies have a true monopoly on their services — even those we would be happy to do without.

All others must come to terms with the fact that the public's buying power (in real terms) diminishes as the inflation rate goes up (especially the imported variety).

As a result, there is a growing necessity to save and hence competition should become fiercer.

Those who now raise their prices for automotive fuel, beer, automobiles, electricity or banking services should bear this in mind.

And the public sector should bear in mind that it is dangerous in times of stagnation to finance excessive waste by milking the taxpayer.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 21 May 1981)

More invested abroad

About DM8bn was invested abroad by German interests last year, according to the Commerzbank.

The rate in the mid 1970s was about DM5bn a year.

Foreign investments in the Federal Republic of Germany dropped during the same period from DM4bn p.a. to DM2.4bn.

In 1972, about half of all direct investments went to European countries; 12 per cent to Latin America (with Brazil alone accounting for 7 per cent); 4.6 per cent to Africa and 4.2 per cent to Asia.

The chemicals industry accounted for the lion's share of these investments.

(Die Welt, 20 May 1981)

'Irresponsible' to ease up on money controls

Hopes of monetary stability are fading as the year goes on.

Germany is still the world's most successful inflation fighter.

But this is no reason to be smug, according to the president of the German S. .ngs Banks Association at the world congress of savings banks in Berlin.

And the retail trade is not optimistic. The national Federation of Medium and Large Retailers thinks that inflation will rise in the next few months.

The reasons: the weakness of the deutschemark against the dollar and the yen; and the consequent price increases for imported goods, especially from the Far East.

In this situation, it would be irresponsible to ease up on money controls.

As Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff sees it, this would ultimately not ease but aggravate the situation by increasing our current account deficit and so making for even more imported inflation.

Though the savings banks are right in saying that we have at last rid ourselves of the wrong notion that a bit of inflation has a positive effect on employment and economic growth, the attitude of the trade unions proves that such fallacies are still believed in some quarters.

Bundesbank President Pöhl made it quite clear at the savings banks congress that the central bank cannot reduce its interest rates at present, and this was borne out by the "non decision" of the central banks council a couple of weeks ago.

The rising dollar exchange rate shows that nominal interest rates still have a greater effect on the flow of capital than interest earnings adjusted for inflation.

As Count Lambsdorff pointed out, if investors were guided by interest rates in real terms Germany would still be the most attractive country on that score.

Karl Heinz Vaubel

(Kieler Nachrichten, 23 May 1981)

Foreign cash reserves take a tumble

DIE WELT

The Bundesbank's foreign exch[..] reserves last year showed a [..] drop than those of any other coun[..]

Yet Germany's central bank still [..] the world's largest currency reserv[..] cording to official IMF informatio[..]

The IMF figures show that glo[..] eign exchange reserves (without th[..] Bloc) rose by $50bn in 1980, ma[..] $448.7bn. The rise in the previou[..] was only $34bn.

The reserves of the industrial c[..] tries rose by 13.3 per cent to $26[..] those of the Opec countries by 25.[..] cent to $93.2bn and those of the d[..] loping countries by 0.6 per cent [..] $85.9bn.

But it must be taken into acc[..] that these figures calculate gold res[..] at 35 Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) [..] ounce ($44.64).

If the figures were based on ma[..] prices, global foreign exchange rese[..] would have stood at $960bn (more t[..] twice the figure given by the IMF).

Germany's reserves dropped prim[..] due to Bundesbank intervention on t[..] eign exchange markets and due to t[..] partial financing of the high current [..] count deficit. All this accounted fo[..] drop of $4.7bn to $52.3bn.

This means that Germany still h[..] 11.6 per cent of the world's currency [..] serves.

France's reserves rose by 45 per c[..] to $31bn. This was mainly beca[..] the assessment of the gold value by t[..] European Monetary System which wa[..] only slightly below free market rates.

The Ecu amounts the members r[..] ceived for the gold they placed at t[..] EMS's disposal were accordingly h[..] and so bolstered France's foreign e[..] change reserves.

Without this gold price, Germa[..] reserves would have shrunk still furthe[..]

US currency reserves rose by 7.4 [..] cent to $27.4bn. Italy was up 4.8 [..] cent to $26.1bn and Japan 5.1 p[..] cent to $25.7bn.

A spokesman of the Swiss Bank C[..] poration: "The continuous growth of [..] ternational money and credit markets [..] the past few years has reduced the sig[..] ficance of currency reserve statistics."

In a system of flexible exchange ra[..] it is no longer necessary for cent[..] banks to automatically intervene on [..] eign exchange markets when excha[..] rates fluctuate beyond a specified m[..] gin.

As a result, any assessment of the [..] serve position of a country must [..] take into account the foreign excha[..] positions of commercial banks oper[..] internationally.

The preliminary data have led [..] Swiss Bank Corporation to assume [..] the foreign exchange positions [..] French and Italian banks deteriorated [..] direct proportion to the improvement [..] official reserves.

The development in the Federal [..] public of Germany was exactly the [..] posite.

Hans-J. Mah[..]

(Die Welt, 23 May [..])

INDUSTRY

Mannesmann diversification keeps it out of the steel crucible

[..]annesmann has managed to avoid [..]etting its fingers burnt in the [..]t by reducing its dependence on [..]e of its business.

[..], the major Ruhr coal and steel [..]ers, Thyssen, Krupp, Hoesch, [..]r and Mannesmann, based their [..]erations on coal.

[..]n the late 1960s they turned over [..]to Ruhrkohle AG.

[..] then the steel companies all [..]ir own ways in search of new [..]eals. But none moved so far [..]om steel as Mannesmann.

[..] wonder, then, that Mannesmann [..]mentioned in connection with the [..]sis.

[..]he late 1960s, when pipes and [..]steel products made for a landfall [..]ss, Mannesmann opted to buy [..]es in fields other than its traditional [..]usiness.

[..]s strategy is essentially unchanged. [..] purchase of a majority equity in [..]ann & Braun AG late last year [..] the acquisition of — for starters — [..]r cent of Kienzle Apparate GmbH [..]bruary indicate that the decisions [..] made in view of the cash position.

[..] this is not really so because the [..]ions were planned well ahead of [..] present position.

[..]e Rexroth equity purchase in 1968 [..] a milestone in the development of [..]y's Mannesmann structure, with less [..] 40 per cent of sales being accounted [..] *by the* coal and steel sector.

[..] medium sized company did well [..]s wrought iron sector until its [..]t was aroused by the hydraulics [..]tment, which went from strength [..] strength.

[..]r since, the Mannesmann [..]gement has devoted much of its [..]tion to precision mechanics, realising that this is where the true growth [..]tial lies.

[..]e other key decision was made in [..]74 when Mannesmann bought the [..]and machinery maker Demag.

[..]spicuously, ever since the Rexroth [..] Demag acquisitions, Mannesmann [..]opted for companies that are technically ahead and hold considerable [..]t shares in their respective fields, [..] as Constantin Rauch, Tally and [..]ngshaus Hydraulik.

[..]m here it proceeded to capture [..] ground more easily that it could [..] done by developing its own pro[..]on facilities.

[..]ere is yet another conspicuous element: Mannesmann has ventured only [..] those areas where it has been able [..]serve what was happening from its [..] lofty vantage point.

[..]us, for instance, the acquisition of [..]mann & Braun was no venture into [..]own territory because, through its [..] activities and through Rexroth and [..]ag, Mannesmann has been able to [..]ibute its own know-how in matters [..]recision mechanics.

[..]rtmann & Braun will therefore be[..] not only from the financial power [..] the new parent company but also [..] that particular type of technology [..]eloped in three other Mannesmann [..]panies operating in this field.

[..]etty much the same can be said for [..] merger with Kienzle, which has [..]while received the blessing of the [..]-trust Authority.



Though Kienzle has had no experience with electronic data processing other than the manufacture of printout devices, other subsidiaries such as Demag and Mannesmann-Meer have already had plenty of experience with equipment for medium-sized companies.

This is a great potential market which Mannesmann will try to capture with the help of Kienzle. Thus, through Kienzle, Mannesmann is now advancing into the growth area of medium data technology.

One of the principles underlying all these involvements has been summed up as follows by Dr Joachim Funk, Mannesmann's finance manager: "We're essentially a company rather than an investor."

As a result, Mannesmann has always tried to hold the majority stock in any company and thus have the influence that goes with it.

As demonstrated by the Rexroth equity (which was originally restricted to 50 per cent of capital), Mannesmann made an option for further shares part of the deal to have the biggest say possible.

Mannesmann will exercise the option as soon as growth necessitates an increase of capital which the former majority stockholders could not go along with.

It is here that the other side of the coin becomes obvious, the coin in this case being the strategy of external growth.

It is especially the above average medium sized companies that are acquired in this manner and become used to the loss of independence.

Because their innovations (of which the mammoths are frequently incapable) make for market successes, they grow inordinately fast and run out of liquid funds sooner than bigger companies.

The Mannesmann-Kienzle merger therefore raises the question whether it would not be more advantageous for our particular economic order if growing medium sized companies improved their capital position through new shareholders and so remained independent rather than leaning on the giants with all their money.

It could be argued that this type of company has traditionally been wary of shareholders who did not come from the ranks of their own family. But it is inconsistent that this wariness diminishes in direct proportion to the size of the potential partner.

This attitude on the part of independent businessmen is the big chance for major corporations like Mannesmann with a nose for markets of the future.

Naturally, they have used this chance in the past 15 years and have thus promoted the increasing monopoly trend of the German economy. It is this that makes the other side of the coin so regrettable.

Hugo Müller-Vogg

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 May 1981)

AEG-Telefunken: switching-on to a brighter outlook

Productivity, sales and orders for Germany's second largest (after Siemens) electrical goods manufacturer, AEG-Telefunken have all improved.

That is the bright note for Heinz Dürr, the chief executive who, since the beginning of last year has been in charge of the effort to put the ailing concern back on its feet.

But the going is still tough. AEG had to pay DM500m in interest alone last year (Siemens, in contrast, profited by just that amount.)

And the public sector is reluctant to commission orders because of its deficits.

Herr Dürr's attempts to motivate the staff of 138,000 range from special courses for top management to discussions with other echelons of the work force.

AEG losses last year dropped by DM200m over the previous year to reach a mere DM320m.

Productivity in the past 15 months has improved considerably as have sales and orders (7 and 3 per cent respectively) — not exactly indications of a decline.

The general improvement would probably not have been achieved without cutting down the payroll by 8,400 last year to a total of 108,000 (in Germany).

Another 5,000 will be laid off in the course of 1981.

Global sales in 1980 rose by 6.6 per cent to DM15.1bn, and orders went up 6.7 per cent to DM15.2bn.

The impact of the failure of AEG is best demonstrated by the fact that the rehabilitation programme alone cost more than DM280m in 1980 — considerably more than original estimates.

Had the rehabilitation costs stayed within the estimated framework, the balance sheet losses for Germany would have been considerably less than DM200m.

Another DM50m will be spent this year to implement the change of course. It is obvious that the company's creditors, headed by Dresdner Bank, hope that this change of course will bear fruit.

The fact that the workers, too, realise how serious the situation is is demonstrated by the works council's approval of a review of the pensions scheme of 1908, which was considered exemplary.

The future reduction of company pensions by two-thirds and the restriction of total pensions to 90 per cent of the last net pay in the next ten years will account for DM3.4bn.

But the change will extend over many years and will be of the "soft" variety.

Dürr anticipates no problems in recruiting highly skilled staff for research, production and sales as a result of the pesnion cuts.

His argument is that AEG now offers the same pensions scheme as its competitors.

Let's hope he's right; for only then will he succeed in having people pull the company out of the mire. After all, there is no money with which to do it.

The consumer sector of AEG will come under the scrutiny of the Federal Anti-trust Authority.

Dürr is perfectly right when he says that future major investments are only warranted for highly automated production facilities with the promise of high sales figures.

As a result, he is looking for a cooperation deal with the French Thomson-Brandt, the English Thorn-EMI and the Japanese JVC.

This "European solution" is to begin operations in 1982 in a Berlin plant making video recorders.

Sales will be up to the individual parent companies.

Asked about the Anti-trust Authority, Herr Dürr said wryly that his company was ready for the skirmishes.

A company spokesman says that losses will diminish still further this year — but no figures are mentioned.

Dürr: "Apart from a change of trend, last year also improved the morale."

1982 will show who is right: Dürr or those who are already wagering that his rescue attempt will fail.

Jan Höhn

(Rheinische Merkur/Christ und Welt, 15 May 1981)

THE ENVIRONMENT

The basic conflict in search for energy



...ust energy and environmental po-...licies, geared to consumption and ...ervation respectively, invariably ...

...seems so, to judge by the latest re-... of the Council of Environmental ...sers to Bonn Interior Minister Ger-...t Baum.

Every mode of energy use has harmful ...cussions of one kind or another on ... environment.

Herr Baum said the report would ...y substantial weight in future delibe-...ations by the Federal government.

But if this is to be the case and Bonn ...eds the environmental experts' advice ... government is going to have to em-...k on a dramatic change of course.

The current policy is to bank on coal ...d nuclear power as means of reducing ... country's reliance on oil imports. ...t both are the worst of a bad bunch ... far as pollution is concerned.

The report does not mince words on ...is point. Burning power station coal is ... run the risk of smog, a higher sul-...hur dioxide count and an increase in ...e number of carcinogenic substances ... the air we breathe.

But the experts are equally reluctant ... endorse the cleaner alternative, atomic ...ergy. In normal operational conditions ...uclear reactor should be much clea-...er than a coal-fired generator, but what ...ppens in an emergency?

The report ruled that an accident in a ...ht-water reactor or a fast breeder was ...possibility too ghastly to contemplate ...r either man or his environment.

The arguments marshalled in the re-...rt are anything but new, any more ...n are its reservations about the claim ...at equating replenishable sources of ...ergy with environmentally satisfactory ...es is accurate.

This again is not to say that heat ex-...anger pumps might not be used ...ndidly in rural areas. But the fact ...mains that all power is generated to ... potential detriment of the environ-...ent.

So the experts conclude that the only ...se to be recommended is to cut ...k power output altogether. It can be done and, given that higher consumption is neither inevitable nor desirable, ought to be done.

In keeping with the findings of the Bundestag's 1980 commission of enquiry, the environmental advisers to the Interior Ministry see no point in balancing one source of energy against another.

The issue at stake cannot be how much coal, how much gas and how much renewable energy we need and how great a remainder ought to be met by atomic energy.

That would merely be to continue the old habit of making energy available; it would not stop waste. The answer must surely be to use less primary energy and put it to better use.

There is ample opportunity of doing so in nearly every sector. It is just a matter of priorities.

We all know what kind of energy-saving measures can be undertaken. They range from better insulation to a wider network of piped heat from power stations.

There is decentralisation by means of smaller power stations and the development of thriftier, more exhaust-free engines.

There is coupling power and heat or recycling heat in industry. These are all ways of not only saving energy but also reducing the burden on the environment.

It is now up to the politicians to get down to brass tacks at last. A chance of putting energy to rational use must not be frittered away by building one coal-fired or nuclear power station after another.

The experts deserve credit for having made the point yet again.

Christoph Peck

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 8 May 1981)

30,000 demonstrate against pollution of Elbe

Thirty thousand demonstrators met on the banks of the Elbe in Hamburg recently to protest against industrial and local authority pollution of the river.

In Germany the Rhine is usually cited as the textbook example of a river polluted to the brink of biological catastrophe or beyond it.

True enough, the Rhine has been at the receiving end of enormous amounts of untreated sewage and industrial effluent. Anti-pollution measures are said to be making slow headway.

This has led to the emergence of the Elbe as a further instance of a major waterway facing problems of much the same kind.

It is surprising that the Elbe has for so long escaped attention. It too is full to overflowing with industrial salts, heavy metals and any number of chemicals.

Pollution has reached alarming levels. No-one would dream of bathing in the river any longer, and Elbe fish are no longer a freshly caught delicacy.

Elbe eels are more than inedible; eating them is prohibited because of their high mercury count. And as in the Rhine's case, several countries share the blame.

This is where the difference lies, however. Whenever the issue of Elbe pollution is raised, politicians and local authorities in the Federal Republic of Germany have tended to point an accusing finger at the GDR and Czechoslovakia.

Neither of these two East Bloc countries takes pollution of the river's water too seriously. They pump sewage and effluent into the Elbe with gay abandon.

The lower reaches of the river, which are in the Federal Republic, have to bear the brunt.

But this has long served as a convenient excuse for laying the blame at the doors of our East Bloc neighbours and diverting attention from local pollution.

The Hamburg demonstration was held to draw attention to local offenders, and many of the 30,000 rightly pointed out the facts.

They are that while the GDR and Czechoslovakia are regularly accused of overloading the Elbe with heavy metals and chemicals, local pollution of the river is often just as bad.

Hamburg itself is no mean offender, pumping untreated sewage into the Elbe rather than setting up enough sewage farms.

Neither are the leading industrial companies who are busy developing the lower reaches of the river.

Even a Bonn government agency, the Physical-Technological Federal Institute, has applied for (and been given) permission to pump 10,000 cubic metres of salt water into the Elbe this year.

This effluent, from test drilling on the site of the proposed nuclear waste disposal centre in Gorleben, is being pumped into the river as though a few thousand tons more were neither here nor there.

Important though it is to negotiate with neighbouring East Bloc countries for an end to pollution of the Elbe, the Hamburg demonstrators undoubtedly have a point.

It is equally important to put our own house in order and set an example where immediate remedial action can be taken: in Hamburg and along the lower reaches of the river.

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 18 May 1981)

Rhine 'still hazard to health'

Keep the Rhine clean in the interest of public health was the slogan of the Amsterdam conference of Rhine catchment area water authorities.

This international body consists of 90 water boards in Switzerland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands.

All rely on the Rhine for their raw material, and the Rhine is still far from clean and still a health hazard, as the annual report published at the conference pointed out.

Pollution was said to have been reduced, both biodegradable and resistant organic compounds, but the pace of improvement had slowed.

Improvements were apparent in respect of the oxygen count and the amount of chemically degradable organic compounds and heavy metals, such as mercury, in the Rhine water.

So water purification measures are certainly proving effective, yet the situation has taken a turn for the worse in respect of chlorides and sulphates.

On average there has been no reduction in the pollution level of organic chlorides, which can only be regarded as alarming from the health view.

A Dutch biologist, Poels, noted in Amsterdam that Rhine water contained potentially dangerous chemicals that might in the long term cause cancer and result in genetic changes.

The international body hopes at its next session, to be held at the end of July, to solve once and for all the problem of, French industrial salts pumped into the river.

Alsatian potash mines remain a major offender, so much so that Dutch water boards have taken the French authorities to court in Strasbourg.

They have appealed against a decision to allow Alsatian potash mines to continue pumping saline effluent into the Rhine.

It is hoped in this way to bring extra pressure to bear on the French government to honour its treaty commitments in this respect.

In his opening address the Dutch Minister of Public Health and Environmental Hygiene, Mr Ginjaar, called on water boards in other countries to follow suit.

He said all countries in the region had legislation enabling legal action to be taken against serious pollution of the Rhine.

In Rotterdam Dutch market gardeners have for several years been fighting a court case against the French potash mining companies.

The court is expected to pass judgment as soon as a report is submitted by specialists this September.

Professor Sontheimer of Karlsruhe University told the conference that 10,000 samples of Rhine water a year were analysed. The salt problem was worse than three year ago.

Building water purification plants was no longer enough. Measures must be undertaken at the point of pollution to prevent further deterioration.

Water boards have been advised to boycott industrial companies guilty of serious pollution of the river and no longer supply them with water.

The time is fast coming when some such measure will be unavoidable in the interest of self-defence.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 20 May 1981)

■ COMMUNICATION

Expression within rules the linguistic dilemma

Linguistic standards at school was the subject of this year's spring congress of the German Academy of Language and Literature.

The emphasis was on how German is taught, and there is more to the subject than meets the eye, although students might not agree.

"Why kill time? There are always teachers to do it!" a *juvenile graffiti* artist has sprayed in white on the red brick of a school with which this writer is more than familiar.

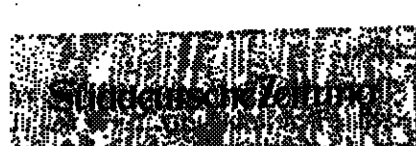
This is a somewhat drastic and, as it has turned out, indelible response to what, in the terminology of German teaching at school, is called speech activity.

The curriculum maps out an entire range of communication theory including terms such as transmitter and receiver, codification, intention and reception, even the appellational and the expressive function of language.

Educationalists are past masters at pigeonholing ideas. A teacher might even devise a system based on a demand for destruction of the system.

Even so, regardless whether or not we are aware of the fact, we hand ourselves over to linguistic norms and the power of their watchdogs whenever we open our mouths and speak.

The desire to escape this regimenta-



tion has been known to drive young people today to the very brink of language or even beyond.

"Why kill time? Leave it to teacher!" It's not exactly a slogan that testifies to a desire to exchange views, is it? It sounds like the pupils just don't want to know.

But conflicts between juveniles and adults, between pupils and teachers, cannot necessarily be resolved by a mere dialogue.

Besides, the problem of standards remains. And the Würzburg congress amply demonstrated that it is anything but an exclusively academic issue.

Harald Weinrich, who organised the gathering, invited not only linguists and writers but also teachers, not only theorists but also practitioners, to attend.

Papers read to closed working parties that formed part of the proceedings included work by Ludwig Harig, by Cologne linguist Theodor Lewandowski and by Munich writer and schoolteacher Dietrich Krusche.

The two working sessions to which the general public were admitted (one of which dealt with German as a second language taught to migrant workers and *their children) were addressed solely by speakers with practical experience in* their subject.

The same was true of previous conferences on linguistic standards in the media and on speech norms in the legal and administrative sectors.

School, the aspect dealt with on this occasion, marked the final term of reference in the most important project the Darmstadt academy has ever undertaken.

As the custodian of German language and literature the academy naturally feels duty-bound to don the mantle of patron saint and avenging angel of our ailing and hard-pressed native tongue.

In keeping with the informal character typical of this day and age the academy does not regard its watchdog role as in any way akin to that of the Holy Office.

The proceedings of the conferences are to be published in three volunes by Klett-Cotta under the heading Public Use of Language, but there can be no question of the academy wanting to impose standards.

All that was intended was to review the situation as it stood and cautiously to formulate tentative objectives.

Gone are the days when academies were expected (and expected to be able) to lay down the law. Nowadays we are all felt to have come of age and to be able to frame linguistic standards ourselves.

The reality may, of course, be felt to be somewhat less satisfactory. Yet Hayo Matthiesen, who dealt with the problem of a literary canon for German teaching at school, was opposed to any attempt to impose a canon.

At the same time he had no objection and indeed favoured reading lists designed to give the teacher ideas and assistance in practical school work.

The mere lack of generally accepted standards does not necessarily mean people will be able to cope with matters freely and without let or hindrance.

Uncertainty over standards can well lead to acceptance of compulsory norms, as Dietrich Krusche noted in connection with the correcting of school essays.

Pupils, he said, reacted in a strangely different way depending whether the mistakes of which they were accused were clear breaches of generally accepted rules of the German language or of stylistic norms.

There are no difficulties with points on which Duden, the standard orthographic dictionary, pronounces an impersonal ruling. Corrections of this kind are accepted as an impersonal truth that need not be taken to heart.

Sensitivity, doubts and conflict are much more likely to arise in the altogether extensive context of subjective judgements.

A red wiggle under a sentence or expression, meaning style rather than grammar, is often felt to be an unnecessary fetter on what the writer wants to say.

Stylistic criticism is, indeed, often resentfully rejected. The dilemma lies in language itself, which is both a system and a utensil.

As a system it requires the user to acept norms and adapt to prescribed rules and regulations. As a utensil it is a means of enabling the user to achieve maturity in self-expression.

The teacher is caught in a cleft stick. On the one hand he tries to show pupils how to give expression to their own experiences and feelings. On the other he rules individual expression right or wrong in accordance with the dictates of a system.

This conflict is as old as the teaching of German at school, but nowadays it has really come to a head, with standards, and not only linguistic norms, shaken to the foundations.

Peter de Mendelssohn

(Photo: Erh

Besides, in view of the rapid in... in depersonalisation there is a ... spread, almost despairing desire to ... tain opportunities of individual ex... sion in the more intimate sphere.

In the teaching of German as a ... eign language the problem recurs ... polarity of breaches of norms and ... tivity, to use the somewhat high-... terminology of Gabriele Pomme... Wuppertal University.

What she had in mind was the ... tionable suppression of linguistic ... vity necessitated by correcting a ... off-the-cuff coinage "foot finger" ... "toe."

Migrant workers' children may ... be told that "toe" is the correct ... but although the term coined by ... Pommerin to describe the dilemma ... seem a little exaggerated, can one in ... fly too high where children and ... guage-learning are concerned?

Mistakes of this kind will happen ... regardless whether the child's ... the-moment coinage is rated ... or creative, teachers are clearly ... called on to walk a tight rope.

They must both help their pupils ... express themselves and ensure that ... language they use is good German, ... the two cannot always go hand in ...

There is, of course, a difference ... tween inadvertently and deliberately ... ing short of the mark.

In the one instance the learner ca... times come up with truly imagina... expedients, whereas in the other it ... simply a case of the pupil breaking ... rules to be awkward.

But does this not apply in ... measure to the poet and writer's ... lection for departing from the co... tional and offering innate resistance ... the everyday?

So the difference of old would ... seem to separate writers and teach... for whom Hayo Matthiesen discon... tingly advocated a German litera... curriculum aimed at conveying ... yardsticks.

This, he said, was a task laid down ... the Constitution, but it appeared ... dismiss literature out of hand as a ... means of practising desirable civic be... viour patterns.

Poet Christoph Meckel, whose ... it was as an academician, reminded ... congress that poetry was inexorably ... to a linguistic world attuned to info... tion, proclamation and description ... functions.

Does language stand any chance ... ever in face of the widespread ... tance of young people to come to ... guistic terms with either themselves ... the world around them?

If it does, one could well argue ...

Continued on page 15

'New illiteracy risk' – Schmidt

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has warned of the danger of a new illiteracy that attaches scant importance to the written word and could well lull many people into a new dependence of their own making.

He was, he said, unable to outline the danger in clear terms, but it was occupying and upsetting him. He was addressing the Book and Democracy gathering held in Mainz under the aegis of the German Readers' Society.

Herr Schmidt recalled the 10 May 1933 Nazi bonfire of books. It had not been the first time books were burnt but the thoroughness, brutality and savagery employed in Germany were most alarming.

Nowadays a majority in the Federal Republic of Germany rejected the Führer cult, anti-Semitism, the glorification of Nazi rule and militarism.

He opposed the view that the Germans as a nation of poets and thinkers were immune from the new illiteracy.

Indeed: "Some people thing we Germans have for generations ranked among the literary and philosophical best, so we are immune to a new illiteracy, to dependence and to intellectual self-alienation."

As for TV, the Chancellor recommended switching the set off more often. He wanted to encourage discussion with family and friends, games and reading.

From 1933 to 1936 a teacher of his had read books with her pupils at her home. This had counteracted the influence of the Hitler Youth.

He had appreciated ever since that reading and literature were education.

Heinz Murmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 11 May 1981)

Tübingen professor turns down Hamburg offer

Walter Jens, who holds the chair of rhetoric at Tübingen University, has finally decided not to accept Hamburg's offer of a Lessing chair of general studies.

Burgomaster Klose of Hamburg expressed great regret on learning of Professor Jens's decision but said he could understand it in view of the unprecedented campaign waged against him.

The offer had been most controversial. The Lessing chair was endowed in the 18th century German playwright and critic's death bicentenary year to provide students and a wider public with courses in general studies.

The post was tailormade and intended for Professor Jens and not advertised in the normal way before being offered to the Tübingen don, which proved grist to the mill of his opponents in Hamburg.

Professor Jens had decided previously, in mid-1980, to stay in Tübingen and concentrate on general studies jointly with Roman Catholic theologian Hans Küng, a personal friend who was in trouble with the curia.

Courses began last winter semester with a course of lectures given by Professor Küng.

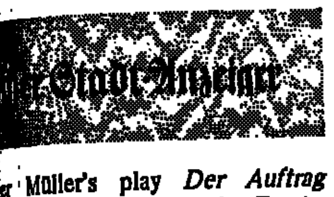
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(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 14 May 1981)

THE ARTS



Play succeeds in spite of off-scenes imbroglio



...er Müller's play *Der Auftrag* (The Mission), directed in Frank... Wilfried Minks, has proved sur... successful in ironic circum-...

...DR playwright's parable of re... was premiered in Frankfurt at a ... when the municipal theatres were ... throes of a rebellion.

... eight years the company had a say ... management, but after two ... of uproar behind the scenes ... furt decided to scrap the idea for ... the being.

...agers Minks and Schaaf were at ...heads. A majority of the company ... lost confidence in Schaaf, whereas ...nd-the-scenes and administrative ... had no confidence in Minks.

...hile Minks was busy with the final ...arsals of *Der Auftrag* the city's mu... al arts director, Hilmar Hoffmann, ... giving him the virtual sack as co-...ger.

...he only sop was a request to Profes... Minks to carry on as a director and designer in Frankfurt.

...n the eve of the first night the ...pany and Herr Hoffmann's sole ...didate as the new artistic manager, ...lf Dresen, agreed to terms.

...ing this autumn Herr Dresen, a ... director who has worked at the ...ater, Vienna, for several years, ... under contract in Frankfurt.

...e goings-on behind the scenes ... hardly fail, even though they were ... trouble dating back to the begin... of the season, to upset all concern-...

... it is surprising that director and ...any have succeeded in staging a ...n of the play that forces the audi... to look and listen and pay atten... to Heiner Müller's overriding idea, ...ouble with revolution.

...e play is based on a short story by ... Seghers, *Das Licht auf dem Galgen* (The Light on the Gallows), and ... with the black slaves' struggle for ...tion in the West Indies at the turn ... 19th century.

...s 1800 and the slaves are to be en...ged to stage an uprising by ...aries of the French Revolution, ... men sent from Paris to organise a ...ion in Jamaica.

...ey fail to do so, and not merely be... Napoleon seizes power in France. ... of the three, Debuisson, uses the ...er of power in Paris as a pretext ...etrayal.

...iner Müller proves an inhibited and ...tened friend of revolution. He is ...ited because he realises that revolu... means terror.

... the same time he favours revolu... because he feels changes are need... specially in the Third World.

...evolution is the mask of death, de... the mask of revolution" is how he ...ibes the dilemma, but he fails to ... practical conclusions.

...e feeds the plot to his play in bits ... pieces, freely chopping and chang... the chronology, background and ... the story.

...e uses the flashback, the play in a play motif, a masked grotesque with denigrations of Danton and Robespierre, followed by a leap into the fanatical in the form of a monologue by a man in an elevator.

In this scene the confused, wits'-end obsequiousness of a present-day figure is set alongside the situation in the play in nightmare fashion.

Here Müller has much in common with both Kafka and Gombrowicz. Surrealism makes it more difficult to escape from a world in which power structures have grown hard and fast.

Minks sets Müller's vision on a plain stage as chilly as marble where he then illustrates it colourfully, vitally and with pleasure in detail.

He is less interested in speculating what might still lie behind such a difficult, codified and, in terms of the language used, pathetic text.

There is something labyrinthine, abysmal and dark in the text that is not to be found in the almost invariably brightly lit Frankfurt production.

But within these limits the acting is uniformly first-rate, especially Fritz Schediwy's overweening turncoat Debuisson.

The first night ended in 10 minutes of applause and a tempestuous ovation that may to a great extent be considered a demonstrative gesture by an audience that was well aware of the behind-the-scenes crisis.

Many members of the company were among the first-nighters. Yet despite the ovation Wilfried Minks did not step forward to take a bow.

It was an unmistakeable sign that disagreements could not even be papered over by a successful production at the end of the Minks and Schaaf era.

The two men were quick to disagree, doing so even before their first season in joint harness began last autumn, and they never did make common cause again.

So their management potential was soon squandered, although Minks was strongly backed by the company, largely because he yielded to the wishes of actors who at that time still had a say in the way the business was managed.



'Der Auftrag': under control on-stage.

(Photo: Abisag Tüllmann)

But this goodwill was gained largely by Minks proving too malleable and willing to make concessions.

Schaaf claimed that he was left out on a limb mainly because he emphasised organisation and always had to insist on unpleasant facts.

Seeing no alternative in the interest of the theatre, Schaaf offered to resign some time ago, whereas Minks hoped to stay on, but has now been relieved of the need to do so.

That leaves the road clear for Adolf Dresen, whom Social Democrat Hoffmann persuaded to move to Frankfurt, although the GDR Ministry of Culture has yet to give its permission.

After several years of uninterrupted work in Vienna, marked by productions such as his *Iphigenie* and *Clavigo*, by Goethe, *Emilia Galotti*, by Lessing, and and Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Dresen seemed to have settled down there.

It was surprising to see him willing to move to the Frankfurt theatrical battlefield. But the risk and the opportunity of doing something new of his own were sufficient incentive, he said.

He was also hoping to take a number of Viennese actors under contract for a few months per season to reinforce the Frankfurt company.

As for staff co-management, maintained for eight years by manager Peter Palitzsch, Dresen is not interested in the idea for the time being.

Decisions need to be reached fast, he says, and the company must somehow or other be successfully reforged into a unit.

He was reluctant to say anything about the plays he planned to stage until he had taken a closer look at his acting staff, but his basic motivation is most interesting.

Dresen is mainly interested in the German classics. He feels missionary work is called for to make them popular with theatregoers again.

The classics, he says, are a way in which the Germans can rediscover their identity.

This testifies to an educational commitment that has long been denigrated in this country, and it is obvious that the GDR is better disposed towards tradition, which the Federal Republic of Germany may well be importing via Dresen.

Dresen is a Pomeranian whose theatrical work has been based on Marx and Brecht. As theatrical manager in a Frankfurt run by a Christian Democratic city council he will indeed be an unusual choice to run the municipal theatres.

Rainer Hartmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 19 May 1981)

Canadian national ballet shows imagination and style

The Canadian National Ballet, currently touring Germany, is more a battalion than a company, comprising 65 dancers in touring strength.

From Stuttgart, the stronghold of German ballet, it moved to Ludwigshafen, where *Swan Lake* was followed by an evening of four works featuring each and every one of the soloists in a first-rate company.

Ludwigshafen was also honoured by the first German performance of Sir Frederic Ashton's *Monotones II*, a pas de trois and a poem in white.

Miguel Garcia, Nadia Potts and James Kudelka dance this play of two men round one woman in an altogether regal manner, with detached elegance and perfect harmony of movement.

Ashton was inspired by a number of early piano pieces by Frenchman Erik Satie and transposed them into body language in what can only be termed minute detail.

The evening's ballet gets off too a good start with *Etudes*, choreography by Harald Lander, a picture of choice symmetry.

Twelve female dancers at each side of the stage start carrying out classical ballet exercises at bars, and they are not only a sight for sore eyes by virtue of their black and white costumes.

Their dancing discipline is no less striking; they go through their exercises simultaneously as far as the eye can see. Soon simple exercises give way to battements and pirouettes.

The bars disappear and are followed by a dancing parade of classical stringency and beauty in which up to 50 dancers male and female take part.

Tomas Schramek and Raymond Smith then dance an exceedingly poetic interpretation of Gustav Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*.

They dance to the Béjart choreography, which portrays the clash of a man with his alter ego, his conscience, his destiny.

The evening then climaxes with Kenneth MacMillan's *Ragtime Ballet*. The stage is alive with girls and boys dressed for dancing.

Even the orchestra is on stage and plays the cakewalk and the slow drag to its heart's content. One imaginative idea follows another in breathless succession.

The bored, easy type was evidently in evidence in those days. He is one of the many parodies that forge a link between ragtime and today's discos.

The stirring music and often outright clownery work up atmosphere. The audience were more than ready to respond as the curtain fell.

Heinz Schröter

(Allgemeine Zeitung, 14 May 1981)

■ MEDICINE

Bavarian trial shows way to cheaper health treatment

A cost-cutting exercise in the Bavarian health system has shown itself to be effective, according to an interim report.

What is know as the "Bavaria agreement" involves doctors agreeing to treat as many patients as possible without *sending them to hospital; prescribing* medicine with care; and issuing a minimal number of illness certificates for workers.

In return, the social-security system agrees to be generous in settling doctors' quarterly accounts.

Although it is not yet clear whether the quality of medicine has improved, it is likely that the system, still the subject of lively debate, will be eventually used across the nation.

Hans Sitzmann of the Bavarian branch of the health system years ago worked-out the agreement with Hans-Joachim Sewering, chairman of the Health System Doctors' Association for Bavaria.

Even without resorting to opinion research, it can already be said that good medical care can only be guaranteed if we do away with the shortcomings that are becoming increasingly obvious.

The main objective here must be to improve the training of doctors who deal with outpatients.

On the other hand, there are also glaring shortcomings in our hospitals which must also be remedied if the *quality of medical care for inpatients is* to be improved and if costs are not to skyrocket. Unless something is done here, costs would rise and the quality of care drop.

One of the major shortcomings lies in the fact that our training facilities have been churning out too many medical *specialists and too few general practitioners.*

The problem here rests squarely with the *hospitals where* interns who spend a long time in the same department are clearly given preference.

As a result, young doctors specialising as internists, surgeons of gynaecologists have an edge over the others.

The *frequent change of hospital* department which is required for those wanting to become general practitioners is a thorny and financially unrewarding path.

The way things stand now, every newly qualified doctor can set himself up without further training and earn the same as a highly qualified G.P.

Even the internist who has had full training and who cannot find a permanent job in some hospital now frequently decides to desregard his specialised training and become a general practitioner because this offers better opportunities. Yet he lacks the very qualifications that are the hallmark of a good G.P.

What is all boils down to is that young doctors who were trained at great *cost acquire only specialised abilities that will* provide them with a diploma as a specialist. They then start a practice as a G.P. without the G.P.'s broad background and wasting the specialised knowledge so expensively acquired.

Many of these "specialist G.Ps." realise their failings and try to acquire the necessary skills in general medicine with varying degrees of success. While the specialist skills of these young doctors are not needed in general practice, there is a shortage of these very skills in the hospitals. The places vacated by those who go into general practice are usually filled with ever new batches of inexperienced doctors who in their turn acquire the wrong skills. The Medical Association attempted years ago to remedy this by introducing a team system of permanently employed specialists in hospitals. Meanwhile, the emphasis has shifted to another type of cooperative system and to outpatient surgery which has proved cheaper and more tolerable for the patient.

But this system will only prove its worth in the long run if it maintains a high quality and if there is enough fully trained nursing staff available.

But the situation regarding new blood in the nursing field is also full of problems. Although some 20,000 nurses complete their training every year, there is still a great shortage throughout the nation.

The reason is simple: German nurses work on average only four to five years.

Yet, the medical director of a ... hospital recently figured out the training cost for a 40-year ... reer as a nurse amounts to DM... to DM600,000.

Following an attempt to reduce ... in the outpatient sector through ... tion, the inpatient sector has now ... barked on a similar project.

Though the vaunted danger of ... tionalised and institutionalised ... has become rather unreal, there is ... real danger now which stems ... fact that various group interests in ... health system are engaged in a ... war.

Wilhelm Gi...

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 Ma...)



New tumour therapy

This neutron generator being used at the German cancer ... centre in Heidelberg was developed at the nuclear research ... in Karlsruhe. The equipment is used to treat tumours.

(Photo: ...)

Key to wider testing of cancer drug

Genetic engineering, scientists say, will make it possible to produce the cancer drug interferon on an industrial scale and at a reasonable price.

Micro-organisms introduced into tissue cultures could provide the source for the mass production of the drug.

Dr John Collins of the Society for Biotechnological research in Brunswick expects this method to reduce the price of interferon 20,000-fold.

Due to the extremely small quantities in which the drug has been produced to date, testing had to be restricted to a very small number of patients.

Genetic engineering, Dr Collins told the Annual Congress of the German Society for Chemical Apparatus (Dechema) in Frankfurt, will make it possible to test interferon on a large scale.

But it will be at least three years before results are available.

The delegates warned of premature hopes about the effectiveness of interferon — of which there are at least 20 different types, divided into three groups.

Since there are no comprehensive tests available it is still unknown which type of interferon affects particularly types of tumour cells.

Interferon treatment has so far been proved effective in only ten per cent of cases — though in some instance the results were "fantastic".

(Allgemeine Zeitung, 19 May 1981)

Congress on alternative cures

At first glance, the annual congress of the German Society for Folk Medicine differed little from any other medical conference.

Like at other such meetings one car after another drew up — most of them expensive.

Outside the lecture hall, there were exhibits by pharmaceuticals companies and instrument manufacturers.

Some 1,500 delegates from Germany and other countries attended.

It was at second glance that the difference showed: the displays in the exhibition hall showed above all charts for a healthy diet, homeopathic medicines, mineral waters and blankets made of natural wool.

The speakers were anything but restrained in taking swipes at academic medicine.

What these nature healers want to offer their patients most of whom come to them frustrated by the conventional variety of medicine) is an "alternative method of healing".

"Only Nature Heals", said a large poster in the lecture hall, holding a promise for all those *who fear the side effects of* the usual drugs.

Georg Risch read a paper praising homeopathy as the "grand alternative" that views the patient as a whole rather than having its sights foxed on the ailment.

As a result, homeopathic medicine *deals with the patient's personal "control* centre" and has no poisonous side effects plus having the advantage of being cheap.

The spreading fear in the wake of a general apprehension over the environment has led to general anxiety regarding the side effects of the drugs used in traditional medicine, the apparatus used by doctors and the impersonal coldness of hospital wards. In addition, general practitioners who can only spare a minute per patient have driven more and more people to seek help from practitioners of folk medicine.

Small wonder, then, that these nature healers are now tackling even the hottest of irons in medicine.

Cancer was thus one of the main topics.

The star speaker was the controversial cancer specialist Josef Issels, 73, who presented his immunotherapy by which he had stuck for more than 30 years.

He did not view his method as an alternative but as a supplement to conventional medicine. He is optimistic ... for advanced cases.

He told the congress that a ... of the damaged defence system of ... body was the crux of treatment ... junction with a localised treatment ... the tumour itself.

The Issels therapy therefore ... dental work and the removal of ... tonsils as it does a special diet, ... cell therapy and thermal treatment ...

Issels stressed that his therapy ... suitable for the treatment of all ... tumours in various stages, for ... ative treatment or preparatory ... ventional therapy.

He accused his conventional ... gues of depriving their patients ... method although research in the ... few years had discovered a link ... cancer and a damaged immune ... system.

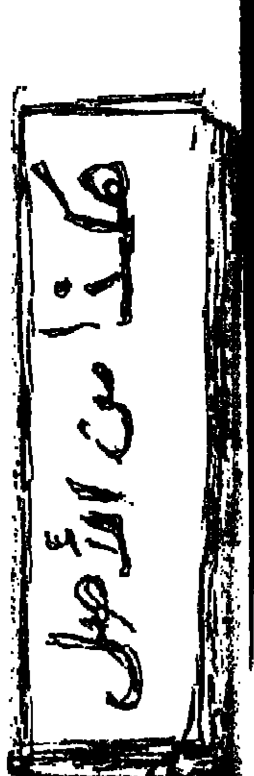
Nature healers have mean... seized on psychotherapy.

Mona Stahl told about ... which the "organ-centred ... medicine" was unable to treat ... folk medicine, with its attention ... patient as a whole, stands ... chance of curing.

Thus the slogans of the pro... "an alternative life style" and ... ronmentalists among the political ... have spread from politics to ...

Gisela ...

(Die Welt, 1...)



■ SOCIETY

Centuries of persecution 'shattered gypsies'

Centuries of persecution had led to an every-man-for-himself attitude among gypsies, said a speaker at the Third World Romany Congress in Göttingen.

Romani Rose, chairman of the Association of German Sinti, said gypsies' cohesion and self confidence as a people had been shattered.

"All the older generation were broken people who simply accepted the justice as part and parcel of their destiny," he said.

The congress was the first the world gypsy movement has held in Germany.

It was a colourful affair. After the performance of the Indian Dance Theatre *Banghra*, H. E. Yashpal Kapoor, Indira Gandhi's special envoy, jumped on to the stage of Göttingen City Hall and joined in the dance.

There was more than just a whiff of the Punjab, the original homeland of the Roma people, pervading the crowded hall.

Dancers in national dress pirouetted to the rhythm of the drums, ably supported by Indian diplomats.

But the backdrop to this festivity consisted of posters with such political demands as "Restitution for All Victims — Now" or "Put an End to Police Raids".

In fact, the whole congress — despite its gaiety — was overshadowed by the past.

Rose called on the audience "not only *to enjoy the folklore programme but also to support the Sinti memorandum* to the Bonn government by adding their signatures."

The demands of the 300 delegates from 32 nations included not only condemnation as genocide of the Nazi crimes against more than half a million Roma and Sinti, but also recognition as a politically and racially persecuted minority and adequate compensation.

Rose said that the difficulties his people encountered in organising themselves and safeguarding their interests were due to centuries of persecution and continued injustice — all of which has led to an attitude of "every man for himself".

Their cohesion and self confidence as a people had been shattered. "All the older generation were broken people who simply accepted the injustice as part and parcel of their destinies."

But the civil rights movement of the past three years, the memorial demonstration in the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp and the hunger strike in Dachau had created a solidarity far beyond family ties and had given rise to something that can best be summed up as "pride".

The 3rd World Romany Congress, he said, was yet another step in achieving more national cohesion. Ties are becoming closer, national organisations are establishing closer relations with each other and — even more important — the common cultural heritage can now be pieced together again.

The congress elected the Yugoslav, Sait Balic, as the new president of the World Roma Union.

He succeeds Dr Jan Cibula (Switzerland), who will remain a member of the Presidium of the International Romany Association. Romani Rose was also elected as a Presidium member.

The Sinti's "verbal march on Bonn" was modelled on the solidarity of the Jewish people.



Simon Wiesenthal addressing the Romany Congress. (Photo: Pob[...]

The main speaker at the congress, Dr Simon Wiesenthal, 72, head of the Nazi Documentation Centre in Vienna, said: "It is shaming and irreconcilable with the dignity of a democratic state to withhold restitution from a number of innocent fellow citizens."

As Toni Franz, a member of the executive committee of German Sinti, sees it, it is quite conceivable so far as the "march on Bonn" is concerned that "we could use our caravans to paralyse Bonn for a weekend."

Franz's bitterness has its roots not only in politics but also in the day-to-day problems in an environment that has made the Sinti "second class citizens".

In fact, this even applies to Göttingen, the venue of the congress. The city administration refused to let the Sinti to use the extensive lawns outside City Hall as a caravan site during the congress but relegated them to what it called "the traditional camping site for itinerants."

Despite promises by the authori[ties ...] took outside intervention by the S[ociety] for Threatened Peoples which org[anised] the Congress before the participa[nts' ca]ravans were hooked up to city utili[ties].

But the Russian emigré Raya [...] "Joan Baez of the Roma mover[ment"] and festival star, was far removed [from] such mundane problems.

In her only German song, she of[fered] a solution to her peoples' integ[ration] problems: "I have black hair you [have] blonde hair; but our blood is red ... a[nd] that's how it should be."

But the song pales and becomes [...] illusion in the face of political re[...] The conspicuous absence of impo[rtant] federal and state politicians from t[he] World Congress had its reasons: acc[ord]ing to information from Bonn, t[he] compensation demanded by the S[inti] would cost the government betw[een] DM60m and DM100m.

The delegates now pin their hopes [on] the European Parliament, whose pr[esident] Simone Veil, received a delegatio[n of] the Göttingen Congress on 21 May.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 20 May 198[1])

Policemen sent to school to learn Turkish

Eleven policemen from the Marburg, Hesse, force have been sent back to school to learn Turkish.

There are more then 6,000 Turks living in the area controlled by the force, including 2,600 out of a population of 20,000 in Allendorf.

Police Commissioner Ludwig Gorol says: "We cannot summon an interpreter for every bit of trivial information a Turkish passerby wants from an officer.

"My men should at least be capable of dealing with minor matters such as checking vehicles and questioning people on the scene of an accident.

"Moreover, it would mean meeting foreign workers in our country half way if police-citizen communication did not restrict itself to 'Me Turk — no speak German'."

It is primarily the automobile industry's sub-contractors that have attracted Turkish labour, to the area.

The policemen who have been sent back to school are not only to learn the Turkish language but also the customs.

Their instructor for three hours a week is Ali Akyildiz, who teaches in Turkish. Only rarely does he relent and permit a couple of words of German.

dpa

(Bremer Nachrichten, 14 May 1981)

Municipalities 'ignoring hobos' rights'

German local authorities have been accused of ignoring legal obligations towards hobos and tramps.

Vagrants are entitled to about DM300 a month under social welfare legislation, but this is a requirement often ignored, delegates at a meeting of the National Work Groups for the Homeless heard.

One speaker said local authorities did not provide either psychiatric help or vocational training.

Bernhard Schmidtobreick, a representative of the Catholic welfare organisation Caritas, told the meeting: "Hobos don't defend themselves. They don't join the squatter movement and they don't claim their rights in court.

"It so happens that they are simply the weakest link in society."

Schmidtobreick said that Germany's shelters for the homeless "inevitably turn people into tramps."

His colleague Hartwig Drude, chairman of the work groups organisation, also stresses that the way hobos are handled by the municipalities forces them to move from place to place in search of temporary shelter.

Once they have been picked up by the police and checked, hobos are usually given shelter and food for one night only and then told at least three months.

Frequently they are rounded up dumped just and outside the city.

Such criticism of officialdom was typical of the conference. NWGM is a national federation of private and public sector welfare organisations.

The main accusation the 270 participants levelled at the municipalities was that they did not meet their legal obligations which stipulate that they must provide hobos with a livelihood (as a rule, DM300 a month).

Hobos are also entitled to a place to stay; and it is the municipalities' duty to provide individual advice on specific problems and make an effort to find jobs for them.

What makes the situation so alarming, social workers say, is that the is getting worse.

There are an estimated 80,000 hobos in this country. The figure has been rising for some time in direct proportion to growing joblessness.

For many, the loss of a job marks the beginning of a hobo career, the life of a man who moves from place to place in search of a means of survival and occasional work.

What happens is that there is suddenly no money with which to pay the rent; and people who cannot prove that they have a job have a hard time finding an apartment.

This is frequently aggravated by m[en]tal instability — making for a perfect [set] of circumstances that will induce a [man] to take to the road.

Since most have had no vocatio[nal] training, it is virtually impossible [for] them to find a permanent job — esp[e]cially in times of general unemploy[]ment.

Hobos are getting younger from [year] to year.

Yet young tramps, the congress [was] told, stand a good chance of being [in]tegrated in society, provided they are [as]sisted in finding an apartment and w[ork]. They also need psychiatric help and [vo]cational training. But most municipali[]ties don't give this.

Delegates were convinced that as[sis]tance in the search for housing [and] work would noticeably reduce the [num]ber of hobos.

The fact that 95 per cent of Ger[ma]ny's 80,000 hobos are men substan[tiates] the theory that the authorities ne[glect] only single men while helping home[less] families and single women.

Social workers know from experie[nce] that hobos would like to become se[ttled] again.

Hartwig Drude: "There is noth[ing] romantic about such a life. The [...] so frequently found among hobos [is an] expression of discouragement wh[ich is] prevalent after all attempts at a ne[w be]ginning have failed." *Karl Otto S[...]*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 20 May [1981])

[S]PORT

[G]ymnast star decides [n]ot to retire

DIE WELT

[The] European championships in [Ro]me were to have marked the end [of Eb]erhard Gienger's international [gymnas]tics career.

[Bu]t he did so well, proving the best [Western] European at the championships, that he now plans to carry on up[to the] world championships, to be held [in Mos]cow in November.

[He] even has next year in mind. "The World Cup in Ljubljana wouldn't [be] bad," says Gienger, 29.

[He] can hardly be blamed for feeling [...]t and ambitious after coming se[venth] in the six-event freestyle combi[nation] at Rome.

[Eu]ropean champion Tkachev of the [Soviet] Union outperformed him, of [course]. So did Russians Karolev and Ma[...] and Hungarian Guczogy.

[Bu]t Gienger was the best Western Eu[ropea]n at the meeting. He only ever [did] better at a European championship in Berne in 1975, when he came [...]d.

[Hi]s closest rival for No. 1 in Western [Euro]pe was fellow-German Jürgen Gei[ger,]22 *who came* ninth in his first Eu[ropean] championships.

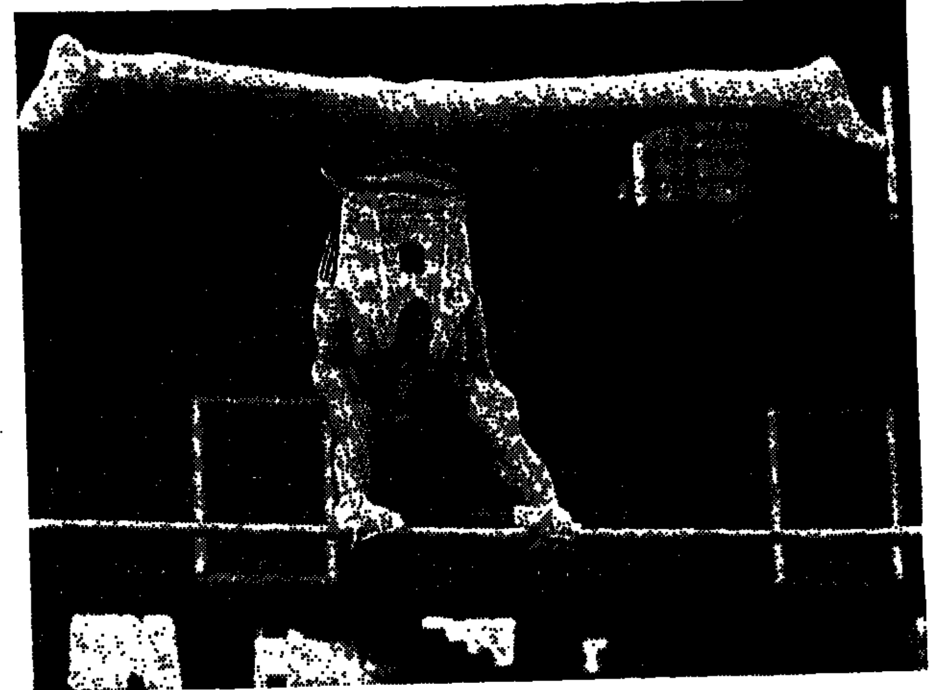
[...] Timmer from Düsseldorf, an ad[judica]tor at Rome, said: "If Geiger had [alrea]dy been a well-known gymnast he [woul]d have scored even more highly and [disap]pointed Gienger this time round."

[Th]e No. 3 in the team representing [the] Federal Republic of Germany, Edgar [...], 25, from Wolfsburg, was less [...].

[In] his first event, the horizontal bar, [a le]ather strap on his right hand broke [and] he fell in mid-movement. He was [back] in position soon enough but his [score] naturally suffered. The champion[ships] were over for him.

"[Th]at was the best I could do," chief [coach] Philipp Fürst told Gymnastics As[socia]tion official Hans Jürgen Zacharias. "[It] was extremely difficult to finish [in] the top 10 at Rome," he added, "[becau]se not only a virtuoso performance was required; the winners had to [take a]ll the risks."

[Risk]s were indispensable because of [the] changes that have taken place in [world] gymnastics since the Moscow [Olym]pics. For one, a number of new [exerci]ses have been developed, especially [on] the horizontal bar and the horse.



Gienger in action, despite pain in right heel. (Photo: dpa)

For the most part they include difficult airborne acrobatics such as three turns in mid-air. The further difficulty is that more and more gymnasts have mastered the new exercises.

That was why Gienger devised his speciality on the horizontal bar for Rome. It was, says coach Fürst, the best of the entire championship tournament.

"Gienger was much better than any of the Eastern Bloc gymnastics," he reckons, and he lodged a protest against the 9.05 points Gienger was awarded.

"His performance was worth 9.95," Fürst says, but his protest was to no avail. It may well have been dismissed in part because he fared extremely well on the ground (9.35) and the horse (9.30 points).

The implication is that as a senior gymnast Gienger gained a better rating anyway than he might have expected to get as an unknown.

"I reckon I was given a fair deal on points for once," Gienger himself says, especially as he was not in top form for the ground event.

"I was troubled by pain in my right heel again, so I was unable to do one of my jumps." A Luxembourg adjudicator, M. Jungels, noticed this and demonstratively awarded Gienger a mere 4.97 points.

Jürgen Geiger on the other hand took all the risks, came ninth and is thus one of Europe's best gymnasts. "His freestyle was terrific," Fürst says.

On the rings, an event he does not much like, he even rated his highest score of the day, 9.7 points.

He was given an extra cheer by the entire Bundesliga gymnastics squad of Bayern Munich, his home club, who had travelled to Rome specially to encourage him.

Geiger is a student of economics in Mannheim, is coached by Fürst in Oppau and is a member of the Bayern team. It was his 12th major tournament of the season.

"That," he says, "is why in training I have not yet been able even to try out my set pieces for the world championships.

"And there's little likelihood of me getting down to them this week either. For three days after an event like this my nerves are in such a state I can do nothing properly."

The same is true of all the gymnasts who gave of their best for two days in Rome. "There's no avoiding it," says European champion Alexander Tkachev.

"You see," explain György Guczogy, 21, of Hungary, sixth at Rome, "the tension is the way it is because there is seldom such an opportunity of reaching the top as here."

This was because Olympic gold medallist Dityatin of the Soviet Union and former European champion Delchev of Bulgaria were neither in the running at Rome. Both preferred to prepare for the world championships.

"It is," says Guczogy, "an opportunity you just cannot afford to miss." He didn't miss it; on the horse he presented an exercise performed in public for the first time ever at Rome. *Klaus Blume*

(Die Welt, 25 May 1981)

The linguistic dilemma

Continued from page 10

[...] the language of literature, with its [...] of breaking the bounds of utilitari[an an]d consumer language.

[T]he academy presented Leonhard For[ster] of Cambridge, England, with its [awar]d for German studies abroad, while [Wolf]gang Kasack was similarly hon[oure]d for his translations from the Rus[sian].

[H]e is the son of Hermann Kasack, who was president of the academy from 1953 to 1963. Current president Peter de Mendelssohn, who has served since 1975, was re-elected for a further three-year term in Würzburg.

Ludwig Harig and Herbert Heckmann were elected vice-presidents to serve alongside Eva Zeller.

Albert von Schirnding

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 May 1981)



New champion

Peter McNamara, of Australia, who won the German open tennis championship in Hamburg last month. He beat the favourite, Jimmy Connors (US), in a rain interrupted final over two days, 7-5, 6-1, 4-6, 6-4. (Photo: Nordbild)

Langer heads for golfing success

Bernhard Langer, 23, the best German golf player ever, is happy to feel he has already achieved his objective for the 1981 season.

He feels virtually certain of being included in the 12-member European team to play against the United States in the Ryder Cup competition at Walton Heath, England, from 18 to 20 September.

He can well do so after finishing as runner-up to Greg Norman of Australia at Wentworth, England, in the Martini International.

In the four-day, 72-hole Wentworth event he was indeed in the lead until the last hole but one.

Langer, a bricklayer's son from Anhausen, near, Augsburg, has until now notched up his best results only at the end of the season.

But this year he has been in sparkling form since spring. He came fourth in the Madrid Open, third in the Italian Open, second in the French Open and then runner-up in the Martini International.

He was thus in the lead in the European prize money stakes, with earnings so far this season totalling £15,793, or DM71,067.

Then came Greg Norman, with £11,000, and José Maria Canizarez, with £10,433. In the Ryder Cup ratings Canizarez was ahead of Langer with 27,123 to 26,634 points.

For the purposes of the Ryder Cup ratings each point corresponds to one pound sterling.

By virtue of playing in the Ryder Cup, which since 1927 has been held every other year first in Britain, then in the United States, Langer will stand to gain a added bonus.

He will be entitled to take part in three major US tournaments without having to play his way through the tough qualifying rounds.

Langer naturally relishes the prospect of playing in the United States, where in 43 tournaments the winner stands to take home prize money ranging from $20,000 to $100,000.

But that would mean being en route for months. "If I stay in Europe I can come home more often and allow myself to be spoilt by my mother."

To this day no-one in Augsburg recognises him, but that is far from the case in Britain, where he is regularly pictured not only in golf papers but also in daily newspapers.

He is particularly popular with British golfing journalists, and not only because at one tournament he stood them a crate of champagne for having given him such good treatment.

He is so popular that a commercial advertiser, Readymix Concrete, uses him in full-scale marketing campaigns, as do textile companies and manufacturers of gold accessories.

Last year he thus earned substantially more than the $200.000 he took home in prize money.

German golf fans will have only one opportunity this year of seeing him in action. His European commitments are so intensive that in Germany he will only be seen at the German Open, to be held at Falkenstein, Hamburg, from 3[0] July to 2 August. *Gerd A. Bolze*

(Welt am Sonntag, 24 May 198[1])